

5/29/97

1. The trip - EFM -
2. The background - SHM.
PY + ~~BY~~ then -
The religious situation - Kim Jong-Il - "May-center of universe".
3. Trip # 2 + EFM
4. Unpop situation. - SHM.

II. The religious-political background.

Perhaps the easiest way to describe briefly and understandably the political and religious situation in which aid to N. Korea must operate is to put it in terms of contrast between N. & S

1. In the N. politics and religion are inseparable; in the South they are separate but friendly.
 - A. N. Korea operates like a huge religious cult.
Kim Chong-il quote - the political song/hymn: "We live with you, General Kim as our God
The medals, the status - Only with you, Kim Jong-il free"
 - B. S. Korea - the ~~church~~ state neither promotes nor hinders any religion -
but neither does it prohibit the teaching of the Bible in govt. schools.
And its people solidly elected as president - a Korean Pres. elder.
2. N. Korea is economically bankrupt. S. Korea has emerged as one of the most prosperous countries in the world.
"N. Korea's total trade for 1995, was less than a week's worth of S. Korea's exports that year" (Wash Post. 7/14/97)
3. N. Korea is officially anti-Christian, but with a tiny crack open for a minimum of religion worship.
S. Korea is officially non-Christian - but Christianity is the strongest, most active religion in the country.

sammoffett. nkorea.sp

A Voyage into the Most Isolated Country in the World

I want to ask you to pray today for the most isolated country in the world: North Korea. I was born there but last month for the first time since leaving it 62 years ago, I went back home.

Our Russian plane touched down at the Pyengyang airport on January 25th. It was my father's birthday, 107 years to the day since he first stepped ashore in Korea as a missionary in 1890. My first impressions on coming home were bleak. I couldn't find my home. Nothing was the same except for the frozen rice paddies outside the city, the ice, thick on the Taitong River, two of the old city gates, and magpie nests in the trees.

Another thing struck me sharply. I was overwhelmed by the difference between north and south. They are two different worlds. The Pyengyang I remembered was a typical Asian city, middle sized with about 80,000 people, bustling with energy and activity, overflowing with people, and happy confusion in the crowded streets. The city now has 2 million people, but where were they? Some, of course, were using the underground subway system. But we drove through virtually empty streets. There were few signs of the old friendly hustle and bustle. The streets were cleaner and much broader than I remembered, the buildings higher, but there were so few people, and none of them were smiling.

Then there were the signs and billboards everywhere. None were commercial, which was a relief. But they were disturbingly political: "What the Party orders, we do", and "The Great Leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung is with us forever".

I must say though how grateful we were to our hosts for receiving us so cordially. There were 12 in our party, and the government escorted us around for the entire seven days of our visit in a cavalcade of six cranberry-red Mercedes Benz vehicles. I had thought they might resent us. After all, we were the enemy. Every North Korean is told about the three great enemies: cruel, colonialist Japan, South Korea, the corrupt puppet of the United States, and America. We were reminded several times that Pyengyang had been carpet-bombed by American bombers. But all whom we met showed thoughtfulness and courtesy.

We didn't see any starvation. We didn't see any overweight North Koreans either. Reliable sources say that the food situation is very serious. We saw no signs of economic disaster; though the world knows that North Korea is reeling close to collapse, while South Korea is one of the economic miracles of Asia. We also knew that we were seeing mostly what our hosts wanted us to see.

Eileen and I were most concerned about the Christians and the issue of religious freedom. When I was a boy in the 1930s

there were more Christians in the north than in the south, two-thirds of all the Christians were in the northern half of the country, and Pyengyang was called "the city of churches". Now in all North Korea there are ~~only~~ three church buildings -- two Protestant, one Catholic (but not Roman Catholic since they are not allowed to acknowledge the authority of the Pope). By contrast, in just one South Korean city, the capital, Seoul, there are about 6,000 churches. We counted eleven church steeples from one window at the airport terminal in Seoul on our way through to Beijing. There are more Presbyterians in South Korea than there are in the United States.

We went to one of the open churches on Sunday. It was unpretentious and unheated in the bitter cold January weather but the service moved us at times almost to tears. The sermon, except for a few required phrases praising the benefits the people have received from the government and its "great leaders", was Scriptural and spiritually nourishing. The theme pointed to the marks of a Christian, whose life should be not only faithful before God but be useful to society. It was the singing, however, that touched our hearts most and confirmed to us that we were in the presence of real believers. Particularly the choir, six women and a man. They sang their hearts out, their faces shone with the reality of their love of the Lord Jesus Christ. "How Great Thou Art", and "Come, come Lord Jesus", all in Korean, of course.

But there were no young people in the congregation. It is illegal to expose anyone under 17 to Christian education. The young are supposed to learn first from the government. Then when their minds are politically trained up through the teen-age years, it is safe to allow them more religious freedom.

But there are signs of hope. When we left, the Foreign Minister who is also Deputy Vice Premier himself gave us a luxurious private banquet which, while much appreciated, made us wish we might share it with the hungry. We have even been invited to come back in the spring. We made no pretense about the fact that we were Christians and most of us missionaries. They appreciated our gift of a gleaming new ambulance and stock of medical supplies we brought with us from the Eugene Bell Foundation. Four of our party were medical doctors. They also appreciated the visit a few days earlier than ours of a group from the American National Council of Churches with a very much needed large shipment of rice. Ours was a private visit. They were amazed that so many of us were alumni of the old Pyengyang Foreign School and spoke Korean. They were also pleased with our connection with Billy Graham, the American they respect the most. Ruth Graham went to school with us in Pyengyang Foreign School, as did her sister, Virginia Somerville, who was with us.

We left also with a sign of hope for the Christians of North Korea. They told us that there was now a new category for legal Christian gatherings. They have been only two: the three "open churches" and some 500 unregistered "house churches". Now ^{rather hidden}

they have recognize 10 "meeting places"--7 Protestant and 3 Catholic. They are apparently former unregistered "house churches" now open for public worship. The official Government estimate is 50,000 Christians in the north. Nowhere near the 15 million in bustling South Korea, but a faithful remnant.

I wonder if the woman in a story in the Washington Post last week was a Christian. Probably not. But she needs our prayers, as do all the people in North Korea. She came staggering across the line that divides the two Koreas. She was barefoot in the snow, shivering, and very, very hungry. How many miles had she walked. We don't know--but the last 5 miles across the no-man's-land of the Demilitarized Zone were a miracle of survival. It's the tightest border in the world. A million armed troops in the north on one side; 600,000 on the other. Five miles of land-mines, barbed wire and terror, vulnerable to shooting from either side.

Perhaps people were praying for her. I don't know. God does hear the prayers of His people. ^{PRAYER-IT SEEDS W/2 grains into a tree.} Perhaps the food you help send through your churches into North Korea gave her the strength for the attempt. I like to think it was also the prayers of a church in South Korea we visited a year ago. They have what must be the largest daily prayer meeting in the world. They pray at dawn. Two services. 5,000 at 4, and since the church is too small for more, another 5,000 at 5 a.m. They pray for the day when the two Koreas will be one again. They pray for North Korea. And when I asked the young pastor how in not much more than 20 years his church had grown to 30,000 members, he simply said, "We pray".

That's something we can all do. The ambulances and medical supplies, yes; the rice, of course. It is desperately needed. But we can learn something else from Korea's Christians: we all can learn to pray.

Samuel Hugh Moffett

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North Korea: Minute for Mission, Nassau Presb Ch., 3\23\97

My *Minute for Mission* is about North Korea, the most isolated country in the world, and about the desperate food crisis there.. There are about 23 million Koreans in the North; about 45 million in the south.

Of North Korea's 23 million, 1 million are in the army. Another 2 million are in the capital, which gets special treatment as a showcase for visitors. I speak for the remaining 20 million who are desperately poor, politically helpless, and are too malnourished to work. How many are actually starving, no one is allowed to know, but according to credible reports it must be in the millions. *4 million on the edges of starvation.*

Four months ago Eileen and I spent 7 days in Pyongyang. I was born there, and was excited about going home at last. But it wasn't the home I remembered any more. When I was a boy, the north was far more productive than the south. Not now. 80% of North Korea's factories are closed. South Korea is the 12th largest export-producing country in the world. When I was a boy, two thirds of the country's fast growing Christian population was in the north. Not any more. In all North Korea there are only 3 open churches. In South Korea there are 50,000.

When I was a boy there were floods but no famine in North Korea. Today South Koreans are better fed than they have been in 2000 years. But the North is near a starvation collapse. We didn't see any malnutrition or starvation. We saw only what our hosts wanted us to see.

But there is no question about the food crisis. Hundreds and tens of thousands of people are down to one meal a day: a bowl of gruel with chopped weeds, pulverized corn cobs, ground roots or the boiled inner bark of trees. And even the trees are disappearing for fuel. In one town were 8,800 children under age 7. Half had stopped growing for lack of food, 750 showed visible signs of serious malnutrition, and 45 were near death, lying there like skeletons and "extremely quiet".(USA Today, April 11, 1997. Farmers are too weak to plant new crops in their fields, and haven't the seeds to plant anyway.

Our group, representing Pyongyang Foreign School and the Eugene Bell Foundation, named for a pioneer Southern Presbyterian missionary, took in medical supplies and an ambulance. Our knowledge of the language, and our Korea background impressed them and they asked us to come back. Now a second group has gone back with a train of 17 cars filled with rice to eat and seed to plant. And this time they were allowed outside Pyongyang into the interior to make sure the supplies reached the really needy.

But we'll be talking much more about North Korea Thursday evening, May 29th at the evening meeting of the *Church in the World* committee. All are welcome.

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(1)

A Journey into the Most Isolated Country in the World
OR
A TALE OF THREE CHURCHES

I want to ask you to pray today for the ^{EAST ASIA} most isolated country in the world: ~~North Korea~~. I was born there and last month for the first time since leaving it 62 years ago, I went back home.

U.S.A. Today reported it under the headline: North Korea opens doors to U.S. Christians. It was very good reporting, but let me describe it more personally. Let me describe it as "A Tale of Three Churches". The first church is in the most isolated country in the world, North Korea; the second is in a country with one of the fastest growing Christian churches in the world, South Korea; and the third is in the largest and most heavily populated country in the world, China..

I. The first church is the Church of the Seventh Valley in Pyengyang, North Korea. I call it the "church of the survivors". They survive because they believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, and that He is the Way and the Truth and the Life, and that no one comes to God save through Him. They are believers. They know there is no other Saviour, and no other Way. We found that out the Sunday we went to worship with them.

Our Russian plane touched down at the Pyengyang airport on January 25th, my father's birthday, 107 years to the day since he first stepped ashore in Korea as a missionary in 1890. My first impressions were bleak. Nothing was the same except for the frozen rice paddies outside the city, the ice, thick on the Taitong River, two of the great old city gates, and magpie nests in the trees.

Another thing struck me sharply. After 26 years in South Korea, I was overwhelmed by the difference between north and south. They are two different worlds. The Pyengyang I remembered was a typical Asian city, middle sized with about 80,000 people, but bustling with energy and activity, overflowing with people, and happy confusion in the crowded streets. The city now has three times as many people, 2 million, but where were they? Some, of course, were using the underground subway system. But we drove through virtually empty streets and there were few signs of the old friendly hustle and bustle. The streets were cleaner and much broader than I remembered them, the buildings much bigger and higher, but there were so few people, and none of them were smiling.

Then there were the signs and billboards everywhere. None were commercial, which was a relief. But they were disturbingly political: "What the Party orders, we do", and "The Great Leader, Comrade Kim Il Sung is with us forever".

But I mustn't demonize the north. I must say how grateful we were to our hosts for receiving us so cordially. There were 12 in our party, and the government escorted us around for the entire seven days of our visit in a cavalcade of six cranberry-red Mercedes Benz vehicles. I had thought they might resent us. After all, we were the enemy. Even their postage stamps had carried that message for the past fifty years. Every North Korean is told about the three great enemies: cruel, colonialist Japan, South Korea, the corrupt puppet of the United States, and America. We were reminded several times that Pyongyang had been carpet-bombed by American bombers. But all whom we met showed thoughtfulness and courtesy.

We didn't see any starvation, though we didn't see any overweight North Koreans either, and reliable sources say that the food situation is very serious. We saw no signs of economic disaster; though the world knows that North Korea is reeling close to collapse, while South Korea is one of the economic miracles of Asia. We also knew that we were seeing mostly what our hosts wanted us to see. We rode two in a car, with a guide and a chauffeur in each car. Our passports had been taken from us at the airport.

Eileen and I were most concerned about the Christians and the issue of religious freedom. When I was a boy in the 1930s there were more Christians in the north than in the south, two-thirds of all the Christians were in the northern half of the country, and Pyongyang was called "the city of churches". Now in all North Korea there are but three church buildings -- two Protestant, one Catholic (but not Roman Catholic since they are not allowed to acknowledge the authority of the Pope). By contrast, in just one South Korean city, the capital, Seoul, there are about 6,000 churches. We counted eleven church steeples from one window at the airport terminal in Seoul on our way through to Beijing. There are more Presbyterians in South Korea than there are in the United States; and even more Presbyterians there than there are Scots in Scotland.

We went to one of the open churches on Sunday. It had been built a few years ago on orders of the Great Leader, Kim Il-Sung, in memory of his mother who was a Christian - and who had attended a church on that site near her home. It was unpretentious and unheated in the bitter cold January weather but

the service moved us at times almost to tears. The sermon, except for a few required phrases praising the benefits the people have received from the government and its "great leaders", was Scriptural and spiritually nourishing. The theme pointed to the marks of a Christian, whose life should be not only faithful before God but be useful to society. It was the singing, however, that touched our hearts most and confirmed to us that we were in the presence of real believers. Particularly the choir, six women and a man. They sang their hearts out, their faces shone with the reality of their love of the Lord Jesus Christ. "How Great Thou Art", and "Come, come Lord Jesus", all in Korean, of course.

But there were no young people in the congregation. It is illegal to expose anyone under 17 to Christian education. The young are supposed to learn first from the government. Then when their minds are politically trained up through the teen-age years, it is safe to allow them more religious freedom. We were told that there are no baptisms or marriages in the churches, and probably only one service each week, the Sunday morning worship.

But there are signs of hope. When we left, the Foreign Minister who is also Deputy Vice Premier himself gave us a luxurious private banquet which, while much appreciated, made us wish we might share it with the hungry. We have even been invited to come back in the spring. I think they were intrigued that a number of us considered North Korea our native home, had a knowledge of Korean history and a love for the people. We made no pretense about the fact that we were Christians and most of us missionaries. Four of our party were medical doctors. They appreciated our gift of a gleaming new ambulance and stock of medical supplies we brought with us from the Eugene Bell Foundation, named for an early Southern Presbyterian missionary in Korea, whose grandson and three great grandsons were with us. They also appreciated the visit a few days earlier than ours of a group from the American National Council of Churches with a very much needed large shipment of rice. Ours was a private visit. They were amazed that so many of us were alumni of the old Pyengyang Foreign School and had actually gone to school right there in Pyengyang. They were also pleased with our connection with Billy Graham, the American they respect the most. Ruth Graham went to school with us in Pyengyang Foreign School, as did her sister, Virginia Somerville, who was with us.

We left also with a sign of hope for the Christians of North Korea. They told us that there were not only the three open church building which we saw, but also that a new category for Christian gatherings is now legal: "meeting places" they are called-- 7 Protestant and 3 Catholic. They are apparently former

unregistered "house churches" now open for public worship. They quite readily admitted the existence of the "house churches", once called the Christian underground, but reportedly no longer harassed, and said there might be as many as 500 such house churches in the north. The official Government estimate is 50,000 Christians in the north. Nowhere near the 15 million in bustling South Korea, but a faithful remnant.

I wonder if the woman in a story in the Washington Post last week was a Christian. Probably not. But she needs our prayers, as do all the people in North Korea. She came staggering across the line that divides the two Koreas. She was barefoot in the snow, shivering, and very, very hungry. How many miles had she walked. We don't know--but the last 5 miles across the no-man's-land of the Demilitarized Zone were a miracle of survival. It's the tightest border in the world. A million armed troops in the north on one side; 600,000 on the other. Five miles of land-mines, barbed wire and terror, vulnerable to shooting from either side.

Perhaps people were praying for her. I don't know. God does hear the prayers of His people. Perhaps the food you help send through your churches into North Korea gave her the strength for the attempt. I like to think it was also the prayers of the second church I want to tell you about.

II. The second church is the Bright Star Presbyterian Church (though that is more the sound of its name in Chinese characters, not an exact translation. It is in Seoul, Korea. And I also call it the Church that Prays.

What a contrast South Korea is compared with North Korea. When I was a boy in the north, 2/3 of all the Christians in Korea. Today it is just the opposite, compared with the north's three little churches, and perhaps 50,000 Christians, out of a population of about 20 million there are 18 million Christians in South Korea, out of a population of about 42 million. There are as many churches, 49,246, in South Korea as there are Christians in North Korea. There are more Presbyterians in South Korea than there are in the United States. There are more Presbyterians in Korea than there are Scots in Scotland. The total number of Christians in little South Korea is 18,000,000 out of a population of some 43 million. (Hankuk Chongkyo Yonkam, 1995).

Protestants	15,055,000	Presbyterians	9,800,000
Roman Catholic	3,300,000	Methodists	1,500,000
Greek Orthodox	200,000	Korean EV (OMS)	900,000
* * * * *		Baptists	880,000
Buddhists	22,000,000	Pentecostal	500,000

See page 1

STATISTICS OF KOREAN RELIGIONS

Religions

Protestants	15,100,000
Roman Catholics,	3,300,000
Orthodox	200,000

Total Christians	18,600,000

Buddhists	20,000,000
Folk Religion	11,700,000
Confucianist	10,000,000
Other	2,500,000

Protestants

Presbyterian	9,000,000
Methodist	1,500,000
Korea Ev' (OMS)	900,000
Baptists	880,000
Pentecostal	500,000
7th Day Advent.	140,000
Salvation Army	104,000
Anglican	78,000
Nazarene	44,000
Lutheran	7,000

Marginal

Moon's Unif. Ch	550,000
Jehovah's Witnes	78,000
Mormons	68,000

- Korean Religious Statistics
1995

(Seoul: Korean Research
Institute for Religion and
Society, 1995), pp. 312-318

Folk religions	12,000,000	[Moon's Unif. Ch	500,000
Confucianist	10,000,000	7th Day Adventist	140,000
		Salvation Army	100,000

But I want to tell you about the Bright Star church in Seoul which we visited about a year ago. It has, I believe, what surely must be the largest daily prayer meeting in the world. They pray at dawn. Two services. 5,000 at 4, and since the church is too small for more, another 5,000 at 5 a.m. They pray for the day when the two Koreas will be one again. They pray for North Korea. And when I asked the young pastor how in not much more than 20 years his church had grown to 30,000 members, he simply said, "We pray".

That's something we can all do. But sometimes I wonder if American Presbyterians have forgotten how to pray. We should remember that John Calvin said, "Prayer is the central act of the Christian life", and we lose that center at our peril. We can learn something from that Bright Star Presbyterian Church.

30,000 members, 2,000 deacons--and it isn't even the largest Presbyterian church in Seoul. Presbyterians started in Geneva....
 Methodist started in England....
 Pentecostals started in Southern California...
 And they are all praying churches. We can learn from the Koreans how to pray.

III. The third church is the Chung-Moon-Wen church in Peking, China. I call it "the church with a world mission in a land where we thought " the church had been wiped out". Communist China.

Coming out of North Korea and landing in communist China was a strange experience. On our way to North Korea, Peking seemed rather drab, and lifeless. But going back out of North Korea, when we stepped out into the airport we actually experience a sense of liberation. Communist China is still communist, and still a dictatorship, but after North Korea it seemed alive, and active and liberated. The streets were crowded and humming with business. People stepped lively, and were smiling. No one was watching us, or following us.

And the church. What an uplifting experience that was. There were 1,300 people trying to get into the service. They could barely make room for us. And the sermon. No politics. It came straight from the Bible. The 82 year old read his text: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." Billy Graham could have been proud of it. 'Next week, you know," he said, "is one of our big

holidays. You won't be working, so get out and tell the good news about Jesus. There are only 50,000 Christians in this great city of 10 million people. They need to know about Jesus. And then, there is a whole world out there!" Imagine preaching in communist China to people so recently persecuted, with such boldness and honesty.

Some people these days tell me that the day of the money is over!

<u>Religions</u>	<u>Protestants</u>
Protestants 15,055,000	Presbyterians 9,800,000
Roman Catholic 3,300,000	Methodists 1,500,000
Greek Orthodox 200,000	Korean Ev(OMS) 900,000
* * * * *	Baptists 880,000
Buddhists 22,000,000	Pentecostal 500,000
Folk religions 12,000,000	[Moon's Unif. Ch 500,000]
Confucianist 10,000,000	7th Day Adventist 140,000
	Salvation Army 100,000

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That's something we can all do. The ambulances and medical supplies, yes; the rice, of course. It is desperately needed. But we can learn something else from Korea's Christians: we all can learn to pray.

"Don't go. We don't need missionaries any more":
19th c.- century of missions
20th c.- century of ecumenicity
21st c.- century of interfaith dialogue

Don't you believe them. '
New partners in mission. 3rd world missions.
We (American missionaries) are still needed.
The number of missionaries is still growing.

The need is still there:
Half of world is hungry.
Half of all adults can't read.
Most of the world is physically sick, 38,000 children die
every year unnecessarily.

And if this is not enough of a challenge: the sickness unto
death. two-thirds of the world, after 2000 years of missions,
still does not know the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

<u>Religions</u>		<u>Protestants</u>	
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increase in 100 years, which is more than 3 times as fast as the increase in the number of Muslims in Asia in that same period.¹¹ There are more Christians in Asia than there are people in the United States. There are more Presbyterians in Korea than in the United States. Korea has about 14 million Christians, of whom in 1995 more than eleven million are Protestants, and about six million of those are Presbyterians.

What happened in Korea? Whatever it was, it certainly impressed Harvey Cox, as I mentioned at the beginning of this article. However, in his understandable surprise at the Pentecostal explosion, he missed the fact that there are five times as many Presbyterians as Pentecostals in Korea. (Cox is mistaken, also, when he labels Korean Pentecostals as "Christian shamanists").

The question still stands. What happened in Korea? The growth is obvious. Protestants grew faster than Catholics; and Presbyterians grew faster than Methodists, Pentecostals and Baptists combined. When my father went to Korea 106 years ago there were less than 250 Protestant Christians in all Korea, north and south, and only two little Protestant congregations; one Presbyterian and two Methodist. Those 250, north and south, in 1890, grew to nearly ~~12,000,000~~ 15 million Protestants in the south alone today, not counting ~~2 1/2~~ 3 million Catholics, and a half million "marginal sects", like the Unification Church.¹²

But what made it grow? The best answer I know was one which I often quote, given by my father sixty years ago. To an inquiring committee from America, he simply said, "For the last fifty years we lifted up to this people the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit did the rest."¹³ Too simple, maybe, but if Christians don't begin there, they usually don't begin at all.

However, there are other important reasons why the Korean church grew. I would mention first a non-theological reason.

¹¹ In Asia since 1900 Christians increased from 18 million to ~~225~~ more than 300 million, a factor of 15; while Muslims grew from 170 million to 688 million, a factor of only 4. In that same period Hindus increased from 200 million to 745 million, a factor of 3.6; and Buddhists from 100 million to 332 million, a factor of 3.3; (World Almanac, 1995, p. 731, and Catholic Encyclopedia, 1910). The growth of Christians far outpaced all other Asian religions.

¹² See the statistics in Patrick Johnstone, Operation World, 1993, (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan (HarperCollins), 1993), 336 ff.

¹³ Cf. S. A. Moffett, in H. A. Rhodes, ed., Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of the Korea Mission of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. (Seoul: YOCA Press, 1934), 36 ff.

EUGENE BELL CENTENNIAL FOUNDATION

100

Activity Report

Vol. 2

Spring 1997

1997 NORTH KOREAN RELIEF EFFORTS

Food Relief

In response to the severe food shortage that is still plaguing North Korea, the Eugene Bell Centennial Foundation will continue the *Food for Life* food relief program which began last year and resulted in distribution of over 65,000 bags of rice from EBCF to hungry North Koreans. Last year, due to trading constraints, we shipped U.S.-grown rice. This year, due to a revised U.S. government policy governing humanitarian aid to North Korea, we will be shipping corn and wheat flour grown in China which will reduce by nearly a third the cost of each shipment. **Your dollar will now buy nearly three times as much food as last year.** We will also continue our policy from last year of applying every dollar designated to Food for Life directly to purchase food and will cover all associated administrative expenses from other general donations.

The critical food shortage, caused by numerous structural factors but exacerbated by heavy flooding which occurred in the summers of 1995 and 1996, has been well documented by international relief agencies. It is expected that needs will be greatest from early spring through mid-summer as supplies from last year's harvest dwindle and new crops are not yet ready for harvest. Last year we worked with the UN World Food Programme to document delivery and distribution of our donated goods. We have been invited this year by the North Koreans to monitor delivery of our own shipments and will become more involved with this in the months ahead. Our first shipment of food is expected to go out in April.

We will purchase the corn and wheat flour in bulk. The cost of corn is under \$200.00 per ton delivered and the cost of wheat flour is under \$300.00 per ton delivered.



EBCF and Pyongyang Foreign School (PYFS) Alumni Visit NK



Dr. John Linton, Mrs. Hugh Linton, DPRK Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam, Dr. Eugene Linton, James Linton and Dr. Stephen Linton with the ambulance donated by EBCF to the Red Cross Hospital in Pyongyang.

In January of this year, representatives from EBCF and eight alumni of Pyongyang Foreign School visited North Korea to dedicate a state-of-the-art ambulance which was given by EBCF to the Red Cross Hospital in Pyongyang. The ambulance was received by the North Korean Foreign Minister on behalf of the people. Also brought as gifts were pharmaceutical drugs for use in the treatment of tuberculosis and plant variety specimens hardy to the North Korean climate. The gifts were gratefully received by the North Koreans.

This is the second edition of the Eugene Bell Centennial Foundation activity report to be published periodically in order to report on the ongoing activities of the foundation. We are a tax-exempt, non-profit corporation. Please direct any inquiries to:

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SPECIAL PROJECTS PLANNED FOR 1997 Agricultural Projects

We are working on a variety of agricultural projects in conjunction with two upcoming joint EBCF - PYFS friendship delegations to North Korea scheduled for later this Spring and during the Fall.

During the friendship visit scheduled for the end of April, we will introduce an easy-to-assemble, inexpensive and effective greenhouse prototype for final development and distribution to individual farmers. Most rural citizens have small patches of land which they are allowed to individually farm. Such greenhouses would greatly lengthen the growing season for vegetables, perhaps even allowing for their year-round cultivation. Funds will be needed to purchase pipe and plastic for the construction of these greenhouses. Initial cost estimates for materials sufficient to make one 10' x 15' greenhouse are in the \$200 range.

In conjunction with the greenhouse project, vegetable seeds will be shipped very shortly to North Korea for distribution to individual families for use in their private garden plots. Additional seed shipments are planned. These seeds, in conjunction with the greenhouses, would make the year-round availability of much needed nutritional fresh vegetables a reality. Through these means, we hope to help families provide better for their own needs. We are in need of sponsors for these agricultural projects.



Medical Project

A medical-related effort is also underway to furnish mobile x-ray and laboratory equipment to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of TB and other diseases. In conjunction with this is a need for x-ray film and specific pharmaceutical drugs. We are looking for sponsors to assist us in this effort.

*"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of
the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."*

—Matthew 25:40



A bit about EBCF...

The Eugene Bell Centennial Foundation was founded in 1995 and works to propagate the Gospel of Jesus Christ by means of educational, humanitarian and religious programs. Much of our work has been in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In addition to our own on-going projects, the foundation also consults with various public and private entities in promoting peace and reconciliation on the Korean peninsula and throughout the Pacific Rim. Dr. Stephen W. Linton is chairman of the foundation. Serving with him as board members are Stephen T. Aceto, John N. Akers, Roger Flessing and Andrew M. Linton.

In addition to food shipments sent directly by EBCF, during 1996 the foundation also assisted other organizations in shipping over 1300 tons of rice to North Korea.

-
- I will contribute \$_____ to help with food relief.
 - I will contribute \$_____ to be used for agricultural projects.
 - I will contribute \$_____ to be used for medical projects.
 - I will contribute \$_____ to underwrite administrative expenses.

 - I would like to be added to your mailing list.

Name

Address

City, State Zip

(F)

smoffett. nkorea#2.1ec

North Korea: The Hunger Crisis, 1997

I. The First Trip. (EFM)

II. The Background. (SHM)

Those days back in Pyongyang left me with some curiously conflicting impressions. On the one hand, I was startled at how some things had changed so little, and on the other hand at how other things had changed so much.

How little some of the basics had changed since my father first entered the city 107 years ago. In 1890 there were only about 200 Protestants in all Korea. In 1997 there were not much more, about 300, Protestants in all North Korea. In 1890 the government was an absolute monarchy. In 1997 the government was an absolute communist dictatorship. In 1890 the old Yi dynasty still prohibited the open preaching of the Christian faith, but there were two open churches. In 1997 the communist government prohibited the public preaching of the faith, ~~but enforced it even more strictly,~~ and there were three open churches.

The other shock was to see how much had changed in the ~~last~~ sixty years since I was a boy. Sixty years ago, two-thirds of all Korean Christians were in the north, and the Christian center of Korea was the city of Pyongyang, where the first theological seminary was founded, and the first modern, degree-granting college, and the first ordained Korean minister was installed as the pastor of Korea's largest church.

Today, all that is in the south--the seminaries (about 20 Presbyterian seminaries), the Christian colleges and universities (also about twenty, including three of the most prestigious universities in Korea), and the large churches. But you've probably already heard enough about that, and I don't want to wax triumphalist. Our Stated Clerk, Clifton Kirkpatrick, came back from ~~the~~ PCUSA delegation ^{visit} to S. Korea in May, saying, "Here is one place where we did something right!" (Layman, May/Jn, '97, p. 10). I will however modestly point out that there are now more Presbyterians in Korea than there are Scots in Scotland; and that for every 40,000 Presbyterians we UPCUSA churches lose every year, just one of the Korean Presbyterian denominations adds twice that many members. On our way through Seoul to Peking and North Korea, from just one window on one side of the Seoul terminal Eileen counted 13 church steeples. *There are 6,000 Prot. churches in Seoul - about half are Presbyterians.*

For the record, let me pass out some statistics:

There are ~~perhaps~~ ^{perhaps} 300ⁿ registered Christians in N. Korea; ~~and~~ ^{though} possibly, counting the uncounted house churches ~~possibly~~ ^{possibly} 50,000 North Korean Christians, ~~there are~~ ^{there are} 18 million Christians in South Korea. If true, that makes S. Korea 40% Christian statistically. ~~but~~ I'd settle for an estimate of 30% ~~membership.~~

South Korea's Christians have doubled in number about every ten years since 1945.

(2)

15 million of the 18 m. are Protestants; 3 million RC.
9 million of the 18 million Protestants are Presbyterian;
1.5 million are Methodist; and 1 million each Korean Evangelical &
Baptist. Half a million are Pentecostal.

Korean Presbyterians are thoroughly conservative and
orthodox theologically. *Their major criticism of American Presb. - Bible of elders, not Bible*

But Korean Presbyterians are also split into 90 different
groups: the two largest are Tonghap Presbyterian (ecumenical), and
Hapdong Presbyterian (Conservative), each with 2.2 million members.
third and fourth largest are Reformed Presbyterian (600,000) and
Koryo Presbyterian (400,000). Fifth largest is the ROK
Presbyterian Church (known as the "liberal" Presbyterian church)
which has only 340,000 of Korea's 9 million Presbyterians.

The South Korean has spearheaded a movement persuading S. Korea to begin the largest shipment of food to North Korea
It will go to a N.K. staying spiritually as well as physically
Compare that with North Korea: 3 open churches, two
Protestant, one Catholic; 10 "meeting places" (semi-public house
churches), 7 Protestant, 2 Catholic; and an estimated 500
unregistered, house churches. ~~And there are no~~ young people in any
of the open churches. In fact, no one under 17 is allowed to go to
church, and it is a crime to be caught teaching Christianity to any
one under 17.

There are about as many Buddhists in Korea as Christians,
but they are not as influential, nor as committed. The churches
are crowded; the temples empty. And it is no coincidence that when
South Korea won its complete national freedom in 1948 it elected as
its first president a Methodist; and that its present president,
the sixth, is a Presbyterian elder.

There are said to be half as many Confucianists as
Christians, but few of them consider it a religion any more.

The gut religion of Korea until recently was animistic
shamanism (the fear and worship of the elemental spirits of
nature). Now the pendulum seems to be swinging toward secular
materialism

III. The Second Trip. (EFM).

12-February-1997

PC(USA) Backs Food Aid to North Korea;
Emergency Barley Crop to Be Planted

by Alexa Smith

LOUISVILLE, Ky.-- Fifty thousand dollars from One Great Hour of Sharing funds have been earmarked to buy seed so that North Koreans may plant an emergency barley crop to stave off drastic food shortages in their country, according to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) officials who were part of a recent National Council of Churches (NCC) delegation to North Korea.

The money is being given in response to an urgent appeal by Church World Service for \$150,000 to ensure a barley harvest in North Korea by June, followed by a rice crop in the late summer. The appeal is part of a \$2 million international ecumenical effort on behalf of North Korea in 1997 that is being coordinated by Action of Churches Together, the relief arm of the World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation.

Church World Service, the humanitarian aid arm of the NCC, is appealing to its constituents to raise \$500,000 of that amount, slightly over the total the NCC spent last year to send rice, beef, antibiotics, blankets and rehydration tablets to North Korea.

"The crisis is not easy to see," said Presbyterian Victor Hsu, who directs the NCC's East Asia/Pacific Office. He said widespread starvation has been avoided so far only because of North Korea's efficient food distribution system, which allows the shortage to be absorbed by the country's entire 23 million population instead of just its poorest citizens. "It is not as dramatic as the CNN images from Africa ... but if nothing massive is done soon, within the next half of the year we may see dramatic effects of the food shortage."

Church dollars will be funneled through the United Nations World Food Program, an emergency food agency that keeps monitors on the ground in cooperation with the Korean Christian Federation, North Korea's postdenominational Christian church.

Hsu said North Korea has implemented strict rationing since its rice crop was destroyed by hail in 1994 and then ruined by flooding in 1995 and 1996. North Korea's large international debt limits the government's access to credit to buy and import food.

"From what we heard, there were reports that people are literally dropping dead from starvation and sickness," said the Rev. Syngman Rhee, associate director for ecumenical partnership in the PC(USA)'s Worldwide Ministries Division, who was one of three PC(USA) staff on the delegation. "And we saw people who were skinny, energyless, fatigued ... no sense of a spirit of joy."

The delegation faxed to New York from North Korea its request that the first \$150,000 be used to buy barley seed for March planting.

The Rev. Dan Rift, the denomination's associate director for global service and witness, said that one flood relief official told the NCC delegation that if North Korea does not obtain more food, the results will be catastrophic.

"It [the food crisis] may not be easy for us to see from Pyongyang [North Korea's capital] and it may not be easy for the international community to see on television," said Rift, referring to how North Korea has coped with ongoing food and energy shortages for the past few years. "But it is clear that people are already starving," he insisted. "The World Food Program is [saying] North Korea has the worst food shortage of any place in the world."

Rift said PC(USA) relief is geared to both support the Christian community in North Korea that is asking for international help for the first time and to provide a visible Christian witness to North Koreans in a time of deep need. He said bags of rice for the relief effort have "Korea Christian Federation" printed on the sides. "The faithful remnant of the Christian community before the Korean War and new believers make

Princeton, NJ, February, 1997

Dear friends,

Our Russian-built plane (Koryo Air) touched down at Pyongyang on January 25, 1997, my father's birthday, 107 years to the day since he first stepped ashore in Korea. The first impressions were bleak. Nothing seemed the same except the frozen rice paddies outside the city, the solid ice on the Taidong River, two of the old city gates, the pavilion on Peony Point, and the magpie nests in the trees. Everything had changed since I left after graduating from Pyengyang Foreign School 62 years ago.

But we had not expected so warm a welcome. During our seven days with a party of 12, all of us with some connection with old PYFS, we found the weather unexpectedly favorable. It was cold but crisp and clear with no rain and one overnight snowfall, leaving two to four inches on the ground. Our accommodations in the big twin-towered tourist hotel were warm and our food in a country said to be near starvation was tasty and amazingly inexpensive--for seven days, an average of \$50 apiece. We traveled in a procession of six cranberry red Mercedes-Benzes, and our superb leader, Dr. Steve Linton, negotiated a schedule open to just about everything we asked to visit.

The Foreign Minister himself gave us a sumptuous farewell banquet complete with spectacular stage show. We were proud of Virginia Somerville, who, representing Billy and Ruth Graham, spoke for us all not only at the banquet, but on several other occasions. Dr. Steve Linton, who was making his eighteenth visit to North Korea and who is well-known, respected and trusted there, acted as our official interpreter, agent and delegation leader. His remarks before the Foreign Minister on the occasion of the presentation of the ambulance, and at many other times, were well received.

True, we always traveled together, two of us in the rear seat of each vehicle with driver and guide in front. We knew we were seeing what our hosts wanted us to see, but we saw a lot. Most memorable for the two of us were the three open churches, the ubiquitous statues, the handsome old city gates, the hill behind the old Presbyterian Mission property (which was now a high security area), the workers marching in file before the 7 a.m. siren each weekday morning chanting political slogans, the relatively empty streets except for long lines at bus stops, and the young women traffic cops with handsome new winter uniforms. The lack of bustle and heavy traffic on the streets seemed so uncharacteristic of Asian cities. Oh, yes, we loved seeing the children on icy streets and rice paddies scooting along on high wooden platform skates in squatting position propelled by icepick-like thrusters.

We were treated with the greatest courtesy and thoughtfulness by our guides, who often reminded us: "We are kind to old people." We were received graciously by officials of each institution we visited -- historical museum, several hospitals, Kim Il-Sung University, The Great Hall of the People with its central library collection and 600 study rooms, the birthplace of *The Great Leader*, Kim Il-Sung, representatives of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Christian Associations, a kindergarten, two flower nurseries and a Buddhist temple 15 or 20 miles outside Pyengyang.

Our days were delightfully enlivened by the presence of three of Betty Linton's sons, Steve, James and John. All of them speak effortless Korean to the delight and even amusement of our guides, who enjoyed their jokes.

We were told that in addition to the three open churches, two Protestant and one Roman Catholic, there are ten meeting places and five hundred house churches. It was a hopeful note on which to leave. The mention of *meeting places*, which we guess may be former house churches now allowed and perhaps recognized to be semi-public, may mean a loosening of the tight regulations restricting Christian worship, one of the most grievous of which is the prohibition of all Christian education, including baptisms and Sunday School instruction for anyone under 17 years of age.

Please pray for North Korea!

Sincerely,

Sam and Eileen Moffett



Please Drive Me To :

請送我到：

Chong Wen Men Church

崇文門教堂

No.N2 Hougou Hutong,Chong Wen Men Church,
Beijing,100005,China

Tel/Fax:6513-3549 Tel:6524-2193

北京崇文門內后溝胡同丁2號

郵編: 100005

東長安街 Dongchangan Ave

臺基廠大街

Taiji Chang St

崇文門內大街
Chongwenmennei St.

崇文門內大街

金朗大酒店
Jinlang Hotel



后溝胡同丁2號

后溝胡同丁2號

D2 Hougou Hutong



崇文門教堂

Chongwenmen Church

北京站西街

Beijing Zhankai St

前門東大街

Qianmendong St

崇文門西大街

Chongwenmenxi St

THE WORLD

N. Korea opens doors to U.S. Christians

Decades ago, the country sought to replace religion with an ideology of self-reliance and reverence for its leader. Now, one of the world's most closed nations turns to Christians amid an ailing economy and a food crisis.

By Barbara Slavin
USA TODAY

They came bearing rice for North Korea's hungry people. They wound up holding hands and singing hymns with 100 Koreans in a Protestant sanctuary in the capital, Pyongyang. "It was a gripping experience," says the Rev. Melvin Luetchens, a United Methodist minister from Elkhart, Ind., who visited North Korea late last month with a National Council of Churches delegation. "The sanctuary had no heat and the temperature was well below freezing. We could see our breaths when we sang. But our hearts were warmed."

Officially, North Korea is one of the world's least religious nations as well as one of its most closed societies. If the country ever really opens up to the world, U.S. Christian groups, including the Rev. Billy Graham's, will deserve much credit.

Until 50 years ago, North Korea had been one of the most Christian places in Asia, with more believers than in the southern part of the peninsula. North Korea banned religion under the late "Great Leader" Kim Il Sung. The government sought to replace religion with an ideology of socialist self-reliance called *juche* and reverence for Kim and his son, Kim Jong Il, who were nearly deified.

But when the country's economic failings became apparent, the elder Kim sought outside help. He turned to Christians, in part because he was familiar with them. His mother was a Christian convert and Kim attended church and Christian schools as a child. As North Korea's food crisis has worsened, men and women of faith have been among the few U.S. citizens allowed into the country.

North Korea now officially permits religious observance, but in fact discourages it. All leaders of religious institutions are vetted for political loyalty. There are only three church buildings — two Protestant, one Catholic — in Pyongyang, once called "the Jerusalem of the East" for its bristling spires. There are no Catholic priests, so no one can attend Mass or receive the sacraments.

Visitors have been told that there are 500 Protestant homes throughout the country and 200 Catholic ones, where Koreans gather for informal



Building bridges: An American Christian group visits a tomb in North Korea. From left, Betty Linton, Samuel Moffett, Paul Crane, John Linton, John and Virginia Somerville, Sophie Crane, and Eugene and Stephen Linton.

worship. But outsiders have not been allowed to verify this.

Nevertheless, recent visitors insist that some religious feeling has survived. "People who say they can't possibly be Christians there are wrong," says Virginia Somerville. Somerville, Graham's sister-in-law, was part of a Christian group that went to North Korea this month for a reunion of a half dozen alumni of a prewar foreign school in Pyongyang.

In the Chilgol Protestant Church, built on the site of a church where Kim Il Sung once worshiped, the U.S. visitors heard two Korean women sing *How Great Thou Art*. "Their faces were like angels," Somerville says. "It brought tears to our eyes. My impression is these are sincere Christians who truly love the Lord but have to walk very carefully."

Officially, there are 10,000 Protestants and 4,000 Catholics in a nation

of 23 million. By contrast, more than a third of 45 million South Koreans are Christians.

To the charge that they are being used to prop up a repressive regime, visitors reply that they not only promote humanitarian goals but give a positive impression to people long cut off from the West. "You create space between the gears," says Stephen Linton, who led the school alumni trip this month. He has been a frequent visitor as head of the Eugene Bell Foundation, named for his great-grandfather, a 19th century Presbyterian missionary.

The most prominent clerical guest of the North has been Graham. His wife, Ruth, and her siblings — the children of missionaries — attended the Pyongyang Foreign School before it was shut in 1940.

Graham has visited North Korea twice at the invitation of Kim Il Sung,

in 1992 and in 1994, at the height of an international crisis over North Korea's development of nuclear weapons. While nominally apolitical, Graham's second visit led to contacts with former president Jimmy Carter and U.S. diplomats that defused the crisis when North Korea agreed to halt its nuclear program in return for energy assistance.

Graham has a track record of going into the lion's den of atheism and being criticized for naivete, then being vindicated for showing foresight.

"We had the same problem when Dr. Graham went to eastern Europe," says John Akers, a Graham adviser. "His reply was, 'I'm not sure who's using whom.'"

The Graham policy, Linton says, "has not been to go there and make converts but to be constructive in a way that raises the prestige of the Christian community generally."



Kim Il Sung: Late leader sought outside help



Kim Jong Il: Nearly deified after religion ban



Graham: The most prominent clerical guest



North and South to meet March 5

The two Koreas are set to meet in New York March 5 after weeks of postponement. North Korea's vice foreign minister, Kim Gye Gwan, and his counterpart from South Korea, Song Yong Shik, will lead delegations. It will be the most senior acknowledged meeting between the countries in two years. The U.S. deputy assistant secretary of State, Charles Kartman, will speak to delegates about ending a 44-year state of war.

The Graham organization has been working hard to build bridges to the North, an extremely delicate task as that country's government contends with economic and ideological failure. Graham hosted a North Korean religious leader at the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington last year. This year, he invited Yang Hyung Sop, the speaker of North Korea's parliament.

Attendance at the Feb. 6 event, which brought together the cream of the Washington political establishment, would have been quite a diplomatic coup for North Korea, which has no formal relations with Washington. Yang had also been scheduled to meet congressional leaders and Vice President Gore. But the North Koreans did not pursue a visa for Yang, expecting that he would have been turned down.

Under a diplomatic deal negotiated by the United States and North Korea last year, the administration promised to admit high-level North

Koreans. In return, North Korea pledged to meet with South Korea to discuss reconciliation. But North Korea twice postponed the meeting, angered that international food aid, which also was part of the deal, was slow in coming.

The United States and South Korea pledged last week to contribute to a new U.N. World Food Program appeal. North Korea announced the next day that it would attend a North-South meeting March 5 in New York.

In the meantime, some Christian groups have criticized the U.S. administration for attaching political strings to food aid and providing too little, too late while millions of North Koreans face starvation.

"We're here even though we are on different sides politically," United Methodist Bishop Melvin Talbert of Sacramento, told the North Koreans last month after witnessing delivery of 700 tons of rice. "We come because our Christian faith admonishes us to come."

"USA TODAY hopes to serve as a forum for better understanding and unity to help make the USA truly one nation."

—Allen H. Neuharth
Founder, Sept. 15, 1982



David Mazarella
Editor
Karen Jurgensen
Editor of the
Editorial Page
Thomas Curley
President and Publisher

Today's debate: **RATING TV PROGRAMS**

New TV ratings deserve a VU: Vague and useless

OUR VIEW Networks aren't doing parents any favors with weak ratings. But they are inviting government intrusion.

Once upon a time, TV didn't need content ratings. Virtually every show would have been rated G — unobjectionable even for young children or visiting clergy.

Fast forward to Jan. 1, 1997. In response to concern over graphic violence, coarse language and casual sex on the tube, the industry — at the point of a congressional gun — introduced ratings. Now, seven weeks of experience reveal the industry is bungling the job. Its ratings are proving vague to the point of meaninglessness.

Roughly two-thirds of network prime time, all kinds of TV fare, is getting a catch-all PG, the mildest cautionary category.

A few hard abs and tight skirts? PG. Grisly surgery? Probably PG, too. A steady run of sophomoric sexual jokes, plus sniggering eavesdropping on bedroom gymnastics next door? That's been PG, as well.

The Media Research Center's Parents Television Council clocked 150 network hours over two weeks and found three-letter, four-letter and five-letter vulgarities popping up in 52% of PG shows. Sexual references, including jokes about masturbation techniques, were in 55% of PG shows.

And that's the category for which the industry's solemnly touted "age-based system" doesn't suggest any minimum age, just a cautious "parents may want to watch... with their younger children."

Many parents don't want to watch, period. From USA TODAY's baby boomer panel and others across the country, there's a recurring message: The new rating system is too vague and, for many, too lax.

An *Orange County* (Calif.) *Register* panel recommended stronger ratings on half the shows it viewed. Feedback was similar

What the ratings mean

Ratings now are displayed on TV screens to advise parents which programs are suitable for children. The new ratings:

For all audiences:

▶ **TV-G:** For a general audience, including most children.

▶ **TV-PG:** Parental guidance suggested. May contain material not suitable for younger children.

▶ **TV-14:** Parents strongly cautioned. Programs may contain material not suitable for children under 14.

▶ **TV-M:** For mature audiences only. Programs considered unsuitable for children under 17.

For children's shows:

▶ **TV-Y:** Appropriate for all children.

▶ **TV-Y7:** Directed to ages 7 and above.

Source: USA TODAY research

ings that go to nearly four-fifths of the evening network schedule, don't tell viewers whether a show is awash in blood, raunch, barracks language or a trifecta of them all.

All this suggests that the industry, which was pushed into ratings when Congress threatened to impose its own system, has no intention of making them meaningful. Now Congress is about to get back into the act with a Senate committee hearing Thursday, raising the specter of government intrusion in broadcast content. So, too, may the Federal Communications Commission choose to act.

The TV folks say they're still getting the bugs out of their system. But the problem isn't bugs; it's inadequacy.

Violence, sex, coarse language and "sophisticated themes" have been homogenized in one fuzzy rating. A more detailed system, giving parents and other viewers more specific guidance, was rejected. Such a system was tested to a positive public response in parts of Canada but was sandbagged as "too complicated" once the industry got into the process.



By Jeff Stahler (jstahler55@aol.com), The Cincinnati Post, for USA TODAY

LETTERS

Lotteries a gamble for education

States that spend lottery dollars on education should have to earmark the money for specific programs because our research shows that many states use lottery money to replace, not supplement, education funding ("More lottery funds headed for education," News, Feb. 18).

We examined education funding in all 50 states, including 12 states where lottery proceeds help pay for schools, and found that, in the long run, lotteries do not help states fund education.

States are likely to decrease their rate of spending for education upon operating a lottery designated for that purpose. Furthermore, the decrease in the rate of spending is a long-term function of lottery adoption that occurs regardless of revenues generated by the lottery.

Prior to adopting a lottery to help fund education, states generally increased their education spending by about \$12 per capita annually. Our research shows that in the first year of a lottery's operation, a state could be expected to raise education spending about \$50 per capita. The long-term impact of a lottery, however, is not nearly so positive. After a lottery is put into effect, the rate of change in education spending drops about \$6 annually.

In other words, spending now increases at only \$6 per year per capita, compared to \$12 annually before the lottery.

Patrick Pierce, *State*

If Pat Boone can't pass purity test, who can?

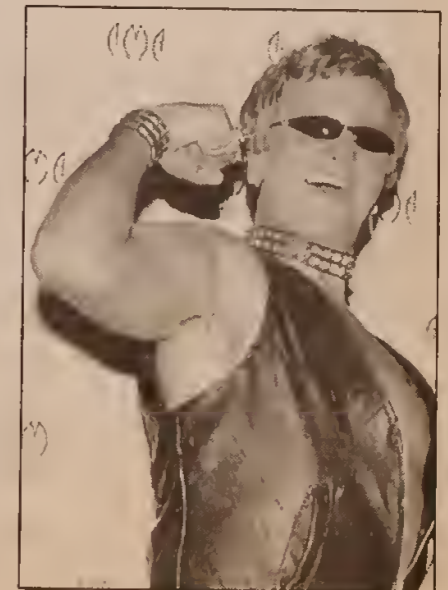
Pat Boone, booted from his Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) show because of his appearance Jan. 27 at the American Music Awards, has to be the victim of one of the worst cases of ignorant overreaction ever seen ("Boone's metal cross to bear," Life, Friday).

Boone appeared in leather pants, leather vest, fake tattoos, chains and sunglasses in an obvious spoof promoting his new album of heavy metal songs. While not a fan of Boone, I consider him to be honest and wholesome and found his "joke" quite funny. He actually looked great.

Apparently, hundreds of Boone's loyal viewers didn't get the joke and called the TBN and complained. His weekly show, *Gospel America*, was canceled.

What I find worrisome is that the same people who canceled the show are trying to gain political leverage and influence in our country. Their reaction clearly shows how inflexible and intolerant they can be.

Censoring one of their own, particularly Pat Boone, whose behavior should be beyond reproach according to their standards, displays what the rest of us less-pure types would have in store if they get their way. Heaven help us.



By Fred Prouser, Reuters

Muscled out: Christian network canceled Pat Boone show after heavy metal joke.

all this time his values have changed 180 degrees? I think not.

I can't believe people are so narrow-minded. But I guess religious zealots are so literal they have no flexibility. In

2. to N. Korea

- ① grandchildren - women (45)
- ② made w. them here - still in the area.
- ③ greatest

Shaw
 Shanna Briston Cannon
 Mary Ann (Belle) - Agnes Scott
 Sue Knicker -

all still in the area

Self-guided Walking Tour of Nazareth Campus



3 recognized religions - Buddhist, Xn, Christianity.
 (One known - Roman Catholic) (Hemp Day) regarding festival at NY University (in visits).
 Can see very nice depth of field - has a section in the history of Xn.

Nazareth, KY 40048

3rd Taylor's trip - from lower - from lower - from lower.
 Xn - 10,000 (?)
 1970 - about 500 more churches, it is said by London Xn Federation (semi-pro, etc, 1948).
 1983 - first hymnbook - at NT. printed 400 - hymn hymnbook. Offered by London Xn Fed.
 1984 - first NIS church built by Xn.
 First - several years, NK will be dependent on field.
 NORTH KOREA - Singapore etc. August 1996.



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>A. Nazareth Village II: 1987
 Built as auditorium: 1871
 Museum, first floor: 1910
 Library of college: 1956
 Formerly Gardiner Auditorium
 Present apartments for seniors include former music wing.</p> | <p>E. Guest House: 1869
 Served as Rectory for more than a century; housed Novitiate 1975-85</p> |
| <p>B. O'Connell Hall, oldest of present buildings: 1855
 At one time housed entire Academy and College; now houses: Caritas Home Health Offices, SCN Mission Offices, Heritage Hall, Gift Shops, Columba Reading Room, Nazareth Arts for Life Office, Gallery and Art Room, Upholstery Shop, and Apartments for Sisters.</p> | <p>F. Former Rectory: 1916
 First built for overseer; used as SCN Mission Office, Juniorate, Guest House, Rectory; now being used for apartments.</p> |
| <p>C. Motherhouse, first built: 1825
 razed and rebuilt: 1906
 Colonial Hall and porch are landmarks of Nazareth. Home to many SCNs; houses archives and offices for Campus Service.</p> | <p>G. Gymnasium: built 1924</p> |
| <p>D. St. Vincent de Paul Church: 1854
 Cornerstone laid 1850
 Renovated and enlarged 1925-26
 Balcony and stained glass windows added at that time. One original window remains in back of church. Special liturgies for profession of vows, installation of leadership team, and jubilee celebrations are held here.</p> | <p>H. "New Post Office": 1967
 Nazareth has had a post office since 1888</p> |
| | <p>I. David Hall: 1959
 Originally college science hall; named for co-founder; houses apartments for SCNs since 1979</p> |
| | <p>J. Nazareth Village I: 1979
 Formerly Spalding and Kane Halls, residences for students; now houses apartments for seniors and differently abled. Villagers have many advantages here.</p> |
| | <p>K. SCN Health System: 1968
 Built as Dining Commons and book-store, and named Crimmins Hall; became the corporate offices of SCN Health System 1991</p> |

Message: 4

To: "Eileen Moffett" <emoffett@ix.netcom.com>

From: "David R. Hackett" <hackett@pff.net>

Subject: Fw: NEWSBRIEF-

Date: Mon, 31 Mar 1997 11:04:50 -0800

Of interest!

Love,
Dave.

To: brigada-orgs-missionmobilizers@xc.org

Subject: NEWSBRIEF--Persecuted/ Baumann/ USA/ Yemen/ Hong Kong

Date: Friday, March 28, 1997 4:30 PM

NORTH KOREA: Permission for the first independent church`
A joint venture between the Institute of Farming in Salz, the Swiss Hi
ll
Farmers

Association and the mission agency Campus Crusade for Christ has recei
ved

permission to plant the first independent Christian church in North Ko
rea.

Hanspeter Nuesch, leader of the mission agency's Swiss branch, tells u
s

that the
North Korean ambassador to the United Nations gave them permission to
plant

the
church in the area in which the organisations are cooperating to provi
de

assistance with farming... North Korea currently has only three regist
ered

churches, all of which are tightly bound to the officially atheistic s
tate.

Source: Hanspeter Nuesch, Campus for Christus, Zurich, Fax (41)-1-2717
819

FRIDAYFax #12, March 28th < FridayFax@cmd.org.nz >

HONG KONG: Ministries Coping With Imminent Handover`

Ever since China became communist in 1949, most support for the Chines
e

church
has come through ministries based in Hong Kong. However, the moment th
e

territory is handed back to China on July 1, 1997, it will become ille
gal

for
any ministry based in Hong Kong to reach out to China's 50 million plu
s

house
church members... The only groups that are unconcerned are those...whi
ch

deal
solely with China's official church, such as the Amity Foundation, or
the

Anglican Church.. There are at least six distinct responses to the
approaching

handover:

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handover:

- * Stay put, keep the faith, but move the silverware...`
- * Wind it up and retire...`
- * Keep the ministry, but dive deep or pull back to another country...`
- * Keep the ministry, but legally separate it from all other Hong Kong activities...`
- * Downplay public links with the house churches, and start dealing ope
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Death by inches in North Korea

Nation of 23 million cannot cope with horrendous famine



Tragedy in pictures, 6A

Photos by Barbara Slavin, USA TODAY

Orphans: At the Yong Yun village nursery and orphanage in North Korea, officials say malnutrition has claimed many mothers and now threatens children. Orphanage director Shi Mae Sun says she has received 40 children so far this year, compared with 80 all of last year.

First lady calls Hubbell payoff claim fiction

By Bill Nichols
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton Thursday ridiculed claims that White House aides were offering former Justice Department official Webster Hubbell hush money by trying to find him work in 1994.

"There isn't anything to be hushed up," she said in a radio interview on WAMU's syndicated *Diane Rehm Show*.

The first lady said suggestions that Hubbell was paid off to keep silent about his knowledge of the Whitewater affair were part of a "never-ending fictional conspiracy" that reminds her of "some people's obsession with UFOs and the Hale-Bopp comet."

Told of her comments, President Clinton said, with a chuckle, "Did she say that? That's pretty good."

Did he agree? "Well if I didn't, I wouldn't disagree with her in public."

Hubbell, a close Clinton

COVER STORY

Leaders have waited too long to ask for help

Government agreed last month to let the U.N. feed 2.5 million children

By Barbara Slavin
USA TODAY

YONG YUN, North Korea — In an orphanage in this village near the Yalu River border with China, nine little babies lie in a row, placed together under one rough woolen blanket for warmth.

Eyes running, noses clogged with mucous, their chests wracked by deep hacking

coughs, the infants hardly seem to benefit from their proximity. Two of the babies are so tiny they look premature, but the orphanage director says they are six months old. All nine mothers died this winter, officials say, and the children appear likely to follow, victims of a slow starvation that is killing this austere nation of 23 million.

Faced with a period some say is the most difficult since the Korean War, the North Korean government is finally lifting the curtain on what has been a stealth famine. For the first time, the North Koreans say, they granted a visa to a U.S. journalist to witness the hunger. And USA TODAY was permitted, as part of a delegation led by Rep. Tony Hall, D-Ohio, to travel 150 miles northwest of the capital, Pyongyang, to the city of Sinuiju on the Yalu River and to

U.S. agrees to more food aid for North Korea

By Barbara Slavin
USA TODAY

The United States plans to announce new food aid to North Korea next week amid a growing humanitarian crisis.

U.S. officials Thursday confirmed intelligence reports that 100,000 North Koreans could die from starvation in the next four months.

The U.S. action comes in response to a new appeal by the U.N. World Food Program for nearly \$100 million in food for North Korea, said State Department spokesman Nick Burns. The United States has already contributed \$10 million this year.

The food aid announcement will coincide with a meeting in New York on Wednesday at which North Korea may agree to attend talks on formally ending the Korean War, which lasted until 1953.

In the latest incident at the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas, North Korean soldiers Thursday crossed into the South, retreating under warning shots. Visiting the DMZ later, Defense Secretary William Cohen said the

Lott will gain this

By Fred An
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Gains and losses will be eliminated, Republican Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott said Thursday.

His remarks came after House Speaker Dennis Hastert called for both tax cuts and members of Congress.

"I personally should have been in those areas," Lott said, looking for a vote to eliminate the tax cuts. "I don't think it's done in one day."

The estimated cost of \$60 billion in capital-gain tax cuts and other provisions is expected to be included in the House budget on Capitol Hill.

Pressure to bring the budget by the end of the year is mounting. Republicans are not getting a deal to have to negotiate separate House and Senate bills.

Richard C. Shelby called for eliminating the tax cuts. He said both tax cuts would cost a billion a year. "It appears to be a deal with the Republicans," he said.

Republicans are proposing cuts, but not Democrats. The two parties are negotiating the two portions of the Americans.

President Clinton posed his own gains tax cut out larger than Republicans. It is highly unlikely that the Republicans thought Clinton were meant, not in like to be, Bush.

arnings. 1,3B.
 all in March. 1B.
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 weekend. Autos. 1,14C.
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NDAY

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 nouncing the 1997 All-USA
 lemic First Team for Two-
 Colleges. **Life**

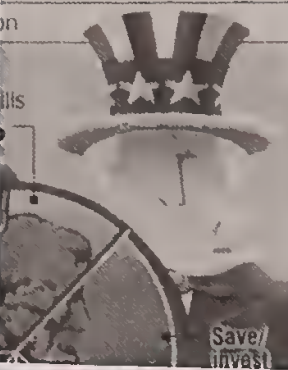
tie Robinson: On the eve
 te 50th anniversary of
 rgrading major league
 ball, remembering 50
 gs about Jackie
 nson. **Sports**

istment clubs: Today's
 i memberships are
 nger, more aggressive
 more diverse. **Money**

DAY 4 SECTIONS

crossword	100
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vision of Gannett Co., Inc.



Orphans: At the Yong Yun village nursery and orphanage in North Korea, officials say malnutrition has claimed many mothers and now threatens children. Orphanage director Shi Mae Sun says she has received 40 children so far this year, compared with 80 all of last year.

Photos by Barbara Slavin, USA TODAY

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Told of her comments, President Clinton said, with a chuckle, "Did she say that? That's pretty good."

Did he agree? "Well if I didn't, I wouldn't disagree with her in public."

Hubbell, a close Clinton friend, appears to have gotten \$400,000 for legal work after he left the Justice Department.

The controversy over those payments increased last week when the White House admitted that former chief of staff Mack McLarty and current chief of staff Erskine Bowles tried to find Hubbell work.

Hubbell was convicted of making nearly \$500,000 in fraudulent billings from his Little Rock law firm. He served 16 months in federal prison.

The first lady, a law partner of Hubbell in Little Rock, said

Leaders have waited too long to ask for help

Government agreed last month to let the U.N. feed 2.5 million children

By Barbara Slavin
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This change of heart on the part of a regime long suspi-

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶

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In the latest incident at the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas, North Korean soldiers Thursday crossed into the South, retreating under warning shots. Visiting the DMZ later, Defense Secretary William Cohen predicted the two Koreas would eventually be united, calling it "inevitable" that North Korea's communist regime will collapse.

rates of 200,000 of them. The capital-gains tax is paid on profits from sales of land, stock and other property.

Congressional and White House budget negotiators met on Capitol Hill for a third straight day under increasing pressure to come to an agreement to balance the federal budget by 2002.

Republicans say if they cannot get a deal quickly they will have to make spending decisions separately.

House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., called Gingrich's suggestion to eliminate the taxes "outrageous." He said eliminating both taxes would add \$40 billion a year to the deficit.

"It appears the speaker is trying to rehabilitate himself with the right wing of the Republican Party," he said.

Republicans earlier this year proposed capital gains tax cuts, but not elimination.

Democrats argue that cutting the two taxes would disproportionately help wealthy Americans.

President Clinton has proposed his own targeted capital-gains tax cut and has not ruled out larger cuts favored by Republicans. But he is considered highly unlikely to support eliminating the levies.

Republicans said they thought Gingrich's remarks were meant to describe ultimate, not immediate goals.

"He's laying out where we'd like to be," said Rep. Mike Parker, R-Miss. "I agree with what he said, but I have to look at it from a standpoint of what's realistic. We don't have a veto-proof Congress."

Sears to refund millions to bankrupt customers

By Chris Woodyard
 USA TODAY

Sears plans to refund millions of dollars that it improperly collected from customers nationwide who had declared

bankruptcy, Ill., says it entered into what are called "reaffirmation agreements" with 132,000 of the 300,000 Sears customers who filed for a Chapter 7 personal bankruptcy last year.

"We are auditing to find out what these debts are," says

effect" on 1997 earnings, which analysts say could mean a reduction of net income by 5% or more. Sears stock slid 3 3/4% to close at \$47 a share.

The amount that Sears had hoped to collect under the agreements totaled \$412 mil-

by threatening to repossess merchandise if customers didn't sign the agreements.

In Massachusetts, Sears could face penalties of up to \$5,000 for each of the 2,700 customers in the program.

"Problems like this are

SPECIAL REPORT: INSIDE NORTH KOREA



Desperate times: A woman forages to supplement a diet that for many is down to one meal a day: a bowl of gruel with chopped weeds, pulverized corn cobs, ground roots or the boiled inner skin of bark.

North Korea: Nation in subtle desperation

A regime long suspicious of the outside world is acknowledging its painful truth: The proud nation of 23 million is slowly starving to death. USA TODAY was part of a delegation that toured the country. **Cover story, 1A**



Rare ride: Transportation is at a premium because of a fuel shortage. In the countryside near the capital, Pyongyang, a tractor pulls people instead of a plow.



Orphaned by starvation: Three babies, right, lie in an orphanage in Yong Yun. Their mothers died of hunger this winter. Malnutrition is the main cause of deaths among mothers, the orphanage says, and the children look likely to follow.





In the fields: Farmers at Kasan village, half-way between Pyongyang and Sinuiju, prepare the fields for spring planting without benefit of mechanization. Officials worry that farmers, weakened by malnutrition, will not have enough energy to plant and tend crops this year. In some cases, farmers eat fewer than 500 calories a day, an eighth of the amount needed for laborers to sustain body weight.



24 hours without food: Kim Myong He, right, who says she is 14, has had nothing to eat since lunch the previous day. Lunch today for her family of five will be the same as yesterday's: soup made with weeds she spent all morning searching for around a muddy pond in Anju.



Hillsides picked clean: Much of the barren, brown countryside has been stripped of trees by desperate North Koreans seeking fuel for heat or lumber for barter. Relief workers worry that the lack of trees will cause a third year of severe flooding when the rainy season comes again this summer.

HOW TO HELP

Groups sending food to North Korea:

Friends of the World Food Program
212-963-9550

U.S. Committee for UNICEF
800-FOR-KIDS

American Red Cross
800-HELP NOW

Mercy Corps International 503-242-1032

World Vision U.S.
888-511-6565

Church World Service
212-870-3151

Eugene Bell Foundation 301-483-0408

For other groups, check out the Web site for interaction at:
www.interaction.org



Reservations of grass: Yu Ak Sin, 71, at left, with the grasses and weeds that she collected for food. She lives in Anju, a city an hour's drive north of Pyongyang, which received its last shipment of grain on March 26. Officials there say they do not know when they will get a new delivery of grain.



In the countryside: Most North Korean farmers must till the fields without machinery, using oxen to pull antiquated plows. Besides oxen, the only livestock seen by the U.S. delegation were occasional herds of small goats and a handful of chickens and ducks. Other animals are presumed to have been killed for food. Many North Koreans say they have not eaten meat for two years. Chronic protein deficiency has caused this generation of children to be smaller than their parents' generation. U.S. officials say tens of thousands of North Koreans have died of hunger and related diseases and thousands more could die this summer.



In the capital: While their countrymen slowly succumb to hunger, residents of Pyongyang, receive adequate rations. The elite are assured between 300 and 450 grams of grain a day and also have access special stores that sell meat and other luxury items. Above, teen-age girls practice exercises with plastic hoops in preparation for April 15 celebrations of the 85th anniversary of the birth of Kim Il Sung. The North Korean leader died in 1994.

Photos by
Barbara
Slavin,
USA TODAY



Korean Central News Agency

Information BULLETIN

Pyongyang

DPRK

No. 22

January 27, 1997

C O N T E N T S

012504 - Russian Delegation Presents Gift to Comrade Kim Jong Il	3
012501 - Comrade Kim Jong Il's Birthday to Be Celebrated Abroad	1
012506 - Day of Foreign Trade Instituted in Korea	4
012417 - Foreign Minister Meets Russian Delegation	1
012502 - Letter Relay Continues	2
012503 - Reception Marks National Day of India	3
012514 - Three Principles of Reunification	7
012512 - S. Korean Workers Encouraged by Northern Workers	12
012505 - Press Review	4
012510 - Rodong Sinmun Observes Anniversary of North Headquarters of Pominryon	8
012509 - Responsibility Lies with Japanese Government ..	10
012508 - Unheard-of Massacre	6
012513 - Korean in Japan on S. Korean Workers' Struggle	12
012507 - Fourth-stage General Strike Declared	9
012511 - Solidarity with S. Korean Workers' Struggle ...	11

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012417 - Foreign Minister Meets Russian Delegation

Pyongyang, January 24 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea met and had a talk with the visiting delegation of the Foreign Ministry of Russia led by its Vice-minister Grigori Karasin today.

Present there were Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Ri In Gyu and Russian Ambassador to Korea Valeri Denisov. -0-

012501 - Comrade Kim Jong Il's Birthday to Be Celebrated
Abroad

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- A Nepali preparatory committee was inaugurated to celebrate the 55th birthday of the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il.

The inaugural meeting took place at Himalaya Hotel in Nepal on Jan. 15.

Beri Bahadur Karki, chairman of the National Council and member of the Central Committee of the Nepali Congress Party, was elected chairman of the preparatory committee at the meeting.

The meeting heard a manifesto which tells the Nepali people and the people around the world that the Jan. 16-Feb. 16 period will be a celebration month.

The manifesto calls for the people around the world to celebrate Comrade Kim Jong Il's 55th birthday as the greatest holiday in the world because it gives great

pleasure and happiness to the Korean people as well as other people around the world who love freedom and peace.

A letter to Comrade Kim Jong Il was adopted at the meeting.

Preparatory committees to mark his birthday were also formed in Mexico and Malta on Jan. 13 and 15 respectively.

At the inaugural meeting held in Mexico, Alejandro Rosales Sanchez, secretary general of the Mexican Committee for Support to Peaceful Reunification of Korea, was elected chairman of the preparatory committee, and it was decided to hold various events in the period between Jan. 16 and Feb. 16.

A letter to Comrade Kim Jong Il was adopted at the meeting.

At the inaugural meeting held in Malta, former President Agatha Barbara was elected chairperson of the preparatory committee, and it was decided to organise a meeting, a lecture, a film show and other events to mark the February holiday. -0-

012502 - Letter Relay Continues

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Groups for the relay of letters pledging loyalty to the great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il started from different parts of the country to celebrate his 55th birthday.

Relay groups representing officials of the commissions and ministries of the Administration Council and central state organs, railroad workers and people of Ryanggang and South Hwanghae Provinces left Mangyongdae, Chongjin, the secret camp on Mt. Paektu and Paechon on January 20, 21 and 23.

At the ceremonies held before their departure, the groups were assigned to convey letters carrying the best

wishes of people from all walks of life for Comrade Kim Jong Il's long life and good health and their firm pledge to accomplish the socialist cause and the revolutionary cause of Juche generation after generation under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The relay groups are running towards Pyongyang amid the warm welcome and farewell of working people, youth and schoolchildren in different places. -0-

012503 - Reception Marks National Day of India

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Narayana Bahadevan, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Indian embassy here, gave a reception on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the national day of India on Friday.

Invited to the reception were Yang Hyong Sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, Ju Song Il, chairman of the DPRK-India Friendship Association and chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, and other officials concerned.

Diplomatic envoys here and Chief Ri Jong Sang of the Pyongyang Mission of the National Democratic Front of South Korea were also present on invitation.

-0-

012504 - Russian Delegation Presents Gift to Comrade Kim Jong Il

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Jong Il was presented with a gift by the visiting delegation of the Russian Foreign Ministry on Friday.

Vice-Minister Grigori Karasin, who was heading the delegation, asked Kim Yong Nam, vice-premier and foreign

minister of the DPRK, to convey the gift to
Comrade Kim Jong Il.

-0-

012506 - Day of Foreign Trade Instituted in Korea

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- January 28 has been set
as day of foreign trade in Korea, according to a
Jan. 23 decree of the DPRK Central People's Committee.

The decree notes that the great leader
Comrade Kim Il Sung published the celebrated work "On
Tempering the Party Spirit of Foreign Trade Workers and
Strictly Adhering to Independence in Foreign Trade" on Jan.
28, 1965 when he presided over a general meeting of the
Party organization of the Ministry of Foreign Trade. In the
work he clearly indicated the principles and ways of foreign
trade so that a radical change could be brought about in its
development, it adds.

In order to add lustre to his undying feats of leadership
over foreign trade for all ages and commemorate this
significant day when he opened a new phase in its
development, every January 28 will be marked as day of
foreign trade, the decree says. -0-

012505 - Press Review

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Papers here today report
that the respected Supreme Commander Comrade Kim Jong Il
sent a gift to Jong Kwang Son, soldier of the Korean
People's Security Forces, who returned home triumphantly
after bravely fighting in the enemy-controlled area.

Seen in the press is news that the great leader Comrade
Kim Jong Il received a gift from the visiting delegation of
the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation.

Highlighted in papers is news that more loyal letter-carrying relay groups left different parts of the country to celebrate the 55th birthday of Comrade Kim Jong Il and preparatory committees for celebrating his birthday were formed in various countries.

Rodong Sinmun comes out with an article on the undying exploits performed by the great leaders President Kim Il Sung and Comrade Kim Jong Il for the times and the revolution, the country and the people and for humankind, pioneering and leading the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Appearing in the press is a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on instituting Day of Foreign Trade.

Papers carry news that the "Korean Confederation of Trade Unions" declared it would hold the fourth-stage general strike as scheduled. Students under the Seoul District Federation of University Student Councils staged a rally and solidarity with the labour movement in south Korea was expressed in various countries.

Rodong Sinmun informs the readers that an agreement on mutual visit of citizens was signed in Pyongyang between the governments of the DPRK and Russia.

The committee of the Ryongsong Associated Machinery Bureau of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea sent a letter to the trade union and workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Ltd. supporting their struggle for the nullification of the amended "labour law" and the "law on the Agency for National Security Planning", say papers.

Rodong Sinmun dedicates an article entitled "Let us more powerfully wage nationwide reunification movement" to the 6th anniversary of the formation of the North Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomrainryon).

Rodong Sinmun in a commentary flails the attempts of the Japanese authorities to negate the crimes related to the "comfort women for the army".

A commentary of Minju Joson lays bare the massacre of Korean residents by the Japanese imperialists during the great Kanto earthquake in September 1923.

Rodong Sinmun runs an article contributed by Prof. and Dr. Son Jong Chol, which says that the south Korean economy is faced with total bankruptcy. -0-

012508 - Unheard-of Massacre

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Minju Joson today denounces the massacre of more than 6,000 Koreans by the Japanese imperialists at the time of the great Kanto earthquake in September 1923.

According to documents found in the Tokyo Metropolitan Archives recently, when the complaints of the Japanese people grew for lack of relief measures for the victims after the earthquake, the Japanese reactionary government concocted intrigues to kill Koreans in order to calm down the people's anti-government sentiments and divert their attention elsewhere.

The news analyst says:

The Japanese imperialists' massacre of Koreans at the time of the great Kanto earthquake goes beyond human imagination. Japanese imperialism mercilessly killed more than one million Koreans by all means and methods during the colonial rule over Korea. Nevertheless, the Japanese government authorities are unwilling to admit and compensate for the past crimes and resorting to every conceivable means to conceal them, adding to the crimes.

The Korean people still remember all the crimes committed by Japanese imperialism in the past and will settle accounts

without fail.

The Japanese government must renounce its wrong stand toward the past crimes as soon as possible and make a sincere apology and compensation to the DPRK. -0-

012511 - Three Principles of Reunification

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- The Korean people are characterized by staunch effort to realise their desires under any trials.

Reunification of the country is their greatest desire.

Today even under difficult conditions, they are stepping up the grand onward movement for reunification, determined to reunify the country at any cost.

The three principles of national reunification are a great ideological support that hardens their will for reunification in the new year.

The great leader President Kim Il Sung defined independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity as the three principles of national reunification on May 3, 1972. The principles were the main idea of the North-South Joint Statement published in July that year.

The reunification of Korea is an issue of linking the blood vessels of the nation artificially bisected by foreign forces and achieving national harmony and an issue of establishing national independence throughout the country.

The three principles indicate the starting point and spiritual support of the reunification movement of the Korean nation and the most realistic method and way of reunification.

That is why the principles became a guide to the settlement of the question of Korean reunification and the south Korean authorities could not but accept them.

That is also why the joint New Year editorial of the

newspapers of the Party, the army and the youth league of Korea described the three principles, the proposal for a Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and the ten-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation as three charters for national reunification. -0-

012510 - Rodong Sinmun Observes Anniversary of North Headquarters of Pomminryon

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Rodong Sinmun today dedicates an article to the sixth anniversary of the formation of the North Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminryon).

Pomminryon is a nationwide reunification movement organisation whose mission is to achieve the reunification of the country on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity, the author of the article says, and notes:

The North Headquarters of Pomminryon has successfully discharged its mission and duty to realise the ardent desire and hope of the Korean people for reunification over the past six years since its formation. It has persistently waged pan-national rallies and many other joint campaigns for national reconciliation, unity and reunification together with its south Korean and overseas counterparts, and actively struggled to strengthen the driving force of national reunification and achieve peace of the country and its peaceful reunification through great national unity.

It will in the future continue to persistently conduct various events and joint campaigns for national unity and reunification, solidarizing with south and overseas Koreans.

The Korean people are convinced that the North Headquarters of Pomminryon will as ever successfully discharge its mission and duty, true to the expectation of

the nation. -0-

012507 - Fourth-stage General Strike Declared

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Kwon Yong Gil, chairman of the "Korean Confederation of Trade Unions", told a press conference on January 24 that the fourth-stage general strike as well as Wednesday strike for repeal of the revised "labor laws" will be called, according to a radio report from Seoul.

He said that the headquarters of strikes will be moved to the office room of the "Korean Confederation of Trade Unions" from Myongdong Cathedral, which he noted is a step designed not to abate the intensity of struggle but to wage a powerful and active one.

He urged the puppet authorities to rewrite the "labor laws" overall before March 1 and put an immediate halt to the suppression of unionists.

On January 23, the organisation held a press conference and called for nullifying the unilateral "labor laws" and rewriting them overall, adding that labor circles should participate in a debate on the rewriting of the "labor laws".

On January 23 and 24, hundreds of unionists under the "Federation of Korean Trade Unions" held rallies, urging the traitor Kim Young Sam to nullify the retrogressively revised "labor laws" and to rewrite them. And they called for the participation of labor circles in the work of rewriting the laws.

On January 23, the "Korean Presbyterian Church" held a prayer meeting on the emergency situation with the attendance of some 500 Christians at Hyangrin Church in Seoul for the nullification of the "Law on the Agency for National Security Planning" and "labor laws".

On the same day more than 100 members of the Office Clerks Union staged a demonstration in the street and a signature campaign, calling for the nullification of the revised "laws".

Upwards of 300 students under the "Seoul District Federation of University Student Councils" held a rally on January 24 in demand of repeal of the "laws". At the end of the rally they marched through streets, shouting loud and clear anti-"government" slogans. -9-

012609 - Responsibility Lies with Japanese Government

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- A forum on the subject "Comfort women and textbook problem" reportedly took place in Tokyo Metropolis a few days ago.

In a nutshell, it was said at the forum that there was no forcible drafting of "comfort women" but they were paid high and had freedom of activities.

Redong Sinmun today, commenting on this, says that what was said at the forum was ridiculous utterances aimed at reversing black and white and that it does not deserve even a passing note.

The analyst goes on:

The crime concerning the "comfort women" is one of the most vicious unethical crimes the Japanese imperialists committed in the past.

To deny the crime is a shameless distortion of historical facts, an ill-intentioned refusal to admit the past crimes.

The Japanese authorities try to gloss over the crime at any cost, bury the historical fact in oblivion and avoid making compensation for it.

Such things as a "resolution" adopted at a prefectural meeting, a meeting of the executive members of the Liberal Democratic Party and an open forum were, in the final

analysis, a product of the behind-the-scene moves of the Japanese authorities to deny the criminal "comfort women" case. In other words, the Japanese government authorities manipulated the rightwing reactionaries to make such utterances denying the criminal case which they wanted to say but could not for fear of condemnation from the people at home and abroad.

The Japanese government is to blame for the above-mentioned developments.

If the Japanese authorities are concerned about the interests of their country and people, they should not try to relapse into misconduct, but honestly admit the past crimes, including the "comfort women" issue and make an apology and compensation for them. -0-

012511 - Solidarity with S. Korean Workers' Struggle

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- The European Regional Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification (Pomminryon), the "Union of Korean Workers in Germany" and the Society of Overseas Korean Christians for the Unification of the Country sent a joint appeal to German citizens on January 14, calling on them to continue expressing solidarity with the just struggle of south Korean workers.

The appeal said that the dictatorial acts of the south Korean regime are violation of principles in view of the international labor law.

It called for strengthening the solidarity struggle demanding the immediate withdrawal of the revised "labor law" and "law on the Agency for National Security Planning".

The European Regional Headquarters of Pomminryon in an

appeal to the German people on January 15 expressed the expectation that the German people will continue supporting the just struggle demanding immediate resignation of the Kim Young Sam regime. -0-

012512 - S. Korean Workers Encouraged by Northern Workers

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- The trade union committee of the Ryongsong Associated Machinery Bureau sent a letter to the trade union and workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Ltd. in south Korea, in support of the massive struggle of south Korean workers and other people for nullifying the Kim Young Sam group's retrogressive revision of the "labour law" and "law on the Agency for National Security Planning."

The letter noted that their struggle for the repeal of the fascist laws is not one for power or wealth but a righteous struggle for the elementary right to live, democratic freedom and worthwhile life.

To struggle to the last for nullifying the revised "labour law" is the only way for the workers to defend their dignity and to achieve democracy and the right to live, the letter said, and emphasized that the trade union committee and its members of the Ryongsong Associated Machinery Bureau would continue to actively support the righteous struggle of the trade union and workers of the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., Ltd. -0-

012513 - Korean in Japan on S. Korean Workers' Struggle

Pyongyang, January 25 (KCNA) -- Ri Jong Hwal, vice-president of the Association of Koreans in Japan for Peaceful Reunification, issued a statement on January 23 in support of the struggle of the south Korean workers and

other people against the traitor Kim Young Sam's retrogressive revision of laws.

He denounced the "labour laws" and the "law on the Agency for National Security Planning" as anti-national, anti-reunification and fascist laws.

He fully supported the just struggle of the south Korean workers and people for democracy and the right to existence.

He stressed that the traitor Kim Young Sam should repeal the revised laws and step down, as required by the south Korean people. -0-

ooo ooo ooo

Creative response

'With you as our god'

By Lee Won-sul



What goes on in the inner ruling circle of North Korea today? Especially after the defection of Hwang Jang-yop? We hear that four high-ranking leaders of the ruling clique died in succession within a short span of time. Did they all die of "incurable diseases?" Or were they murdered in a political purge? Kang Sung-san stepped down from the premiership. Was he demoted because of his taking bribery as it has been reported? Or was he victimized as a scapegoat for the failing economy? According to an unconfirmed press report, North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam also lost his position. We can hardly construct a mental view of what actually goes on in the North these days.

With the scant amount of information seeping out of the totally closed society in the North, we can hardly fathom what really goes on in Pyongyang these days. How can the Kim Jong-il regime survive in such a dire, dreadful and hopeless economic condition of the land? But one thing has become abundantly clear: Namely its survival has become increasingly precarious. Like a horse pawing the ground and the air, Kim Jong-il and his cronies seem to be struggling hard to wriggle out of the crisis.

Readers' forum

Kim Jong-il seems to depend heavily upon two seemingly self-contradictory policies: the open and the closed. On one hand, his government strongly pursues to establish formal diplomatic relations with the nations in the West, notably with the U.S. Already, an emissary was sent to America from Pyongyang to negotiate with Washington on a number of pressing issues. Also, North Korean diplomats are busy knocking on the doors of the Western European nations. But on the other hand, Kim is trying to create a cult by making himself a deity, an object of veneration. With the Juche ideology increasingly shrivelled in the minds of his people, he had to pull the spiritual energy of his people toward one object. In this sense, Kim is trying to create a new religion with himself as its chief deity.

A few days ago, I fortuitously got hold of a copy of the Korea Today, an English magazine published in Pyongyang, which had an eye-catching article, "We Live With You as Our God." At first, I thought the article was a sort of Marxian criticism on religion. To my utter surprise, it was a song directed to "General King Jong-il."

When Kim Il-sung was alive, he was

first regarded as a super-hero, the Liberator of the Korean people from the Japanese colonial yoke. And then, toward the end of his life, the senior Kim was made a demi-god to the extent that the people had to bow to his statues. After his death, his corpse lay in a huge marble-walled mausoleum, and the visitors are told to worship him. Never did we, however, expect that the junior Kim at his youthful age would be deified. The article says in part, "In good times or bad, Koreans in the North sing the song, 'We Live With You as Our God.' Its message is that Koreans entrust their destiny to respected General Kim Jong-il entirely. They have learned from experiences in life the trust that there is no one but the leader who will protect their fate."

Have all of our compatriots in the North turned insane? Are they all out of their minds? I don't believe so. Devoid of charisma that the senior Kim had enjoyed, the junior Kim has to do something drastic to win the hearts of the people. But what? He should feed the people as fast as possible. But what choices can he have?

Facing the ever-increasing, ever-worsening and ever-mounting problems,

Kim's political propaganda machine must have devised a ballyhoo to make him a deity. The song goes as follows
When in difficulty we enter
your embrace,

And when in need we look for
your hand.

We live with you, General
as our God,

Only with you General
Kim Jong-il forever.

The article further writes that some fishermen had once drifted on the rough sea for many days, but "they returned home because they could fight the death, singing of the General."

All the country entrusts its
destiny to you.

All the world entrusts its
future to you.

They live with you as their
God

Live with you general
Kim Jong-il forever.

I am aghast to read the content of the song. To me, this song sounds like a dirge for the funeral of Kim Jong-il. In "avatar" in Hinduism, a saint can be regarded as a god. But those who were venerated as deities in India are ascetics who abandon all the carnal desires of life - certainly unlike the power-hungry North Korean dictator. I feel that the hand-writing on the wall in the North has become abundantly clear. This is all the more the reason why we in the South have to work hard continuously to cope with some unexpected incidents which may break out in the North at any time.

평양



Pyongyang



KOREA INTERNATIONAL
TRAVEL COMPANY



Mangyongdae is a place of significance, where the respected leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was born and spent his childhood. Preserved as they were are the historical remains which were used by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his family members.

Historical Places

The historical places of Pyongyang were laid out in order to convey forever the immortal revolutionary history and the exploits of struggle of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the dear leader Comrade Kim Jong Il of the Korean people.

The representative revolutionary sites: Mangyongdae, Chilgol, Ponghwa, Jongsung, Oun, etc.

Monuments

The Grand Monument on Mansu Hill, the Tower of Juche Idea, the Arch of Triumph, the Chollima Statue, the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong, the Monument to the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War.

The street was built on the occasion of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students held in July, 1989. The street is six kilometres long and 100 metres wide. There are a department store, restaurants, schools, kindergartens and nurseries including 42-storied high-rises.

Kwangbok Street



Cultural Facilities

Museums: the Korean Revolution Museum, the Korean Central History Museum, the Korean Folklore Museum, the Korean Art Gallery, the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

Theatres: the Mansudae Art Theatre, the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, the February 8 House of Culture, the Pyongyang Circus, the Ponghwa Art Theatre, the Central Youth Hall, the East Pyongyang Grand Theatre.



Thongil Street



Mangyongdae Schoolchildren's Palace

This is a sports village with sport facilities. There are a football stadium, an indoor swimming pool, a gymnasium for volleyball, table tennis, badminton, weightlifting, athletics, combat sports, etc. there are a rest house for players, a hotel and other service facilities. There 20 events and 40 kinds of sport games can be played at the same time.

Chongchun Street



Three-Revolution Exhibition



Grand People's Study House



Pothong Gate



Ulmil Pavilion



Chilsong Gate



Kwangbop Temple

Historical Remains

The Tomb of Tangun was unearthed in 1993. The remains and relics of Tangun, the founder king of Kojoson are preserved in the tomb. Tangun, born in Pyongyang 5,000 years ago, established Kojoson (ancient Korea) with Pyongyang as the centre and died here. The tomb is situated on the foot of Mt. Taebak, Munhung-ri, Kang-dong County. It is one of the largest tombs in our country with the length of one side 50 metres and the height 20 metres. Stone tomb is the typical tomb style of Kojoson. The visitors can see the remains of Tangun and the figures of his four sons standing near the tomb.

- The relics of primitive men:** Komunmoru relics (Sangwon County, Pyongyang), Taehyondong relics (Ryokpho District, Pyongyang), Mandalli relics (Sungho District, Pyongyang), etc.
- Gates and forts:** the Fort on Mt. Taesong, the Site of Anhak Palace, Jangan Fort (the Walled City of Pyongyang), Taedong Gate, Pothong Gate, Chilsong Gate, Hyonmu Gate, etc.
- Tombs:** the Tomb of Tangun, the Tomb of King Tongmyong
- Pavilions:** the Ulmil Pavilion, the Choesung Pavilion, the Ryongwang Pavilion, the Chongnyu Pavilion, the Pubyok Pavilion, etc.
- Buddhist halls:** Sungin Hall, Sungnyong Hall.
- Temples:** Kwangbop Temple, Ryonghwa Temple.



Tomb of Tangun

USEFUL INFORMATION

Hotels

Class	Name	Address	Numbers of	
			Floors	rooms
deluxe	Koryo Hotel	Tonghung-dong, Central District	45	500
first	Ryanggang Hotel	Chongchun Street, Mangyongdae District	11	330
first	Pothonggang Hotel	Ansan-dong, Phyongchon District	9	161
first	Sosan Hotel	Chongchun Street, Mangyongdae District	30	474
first	Chongnyon Hotel	Chukjon-dong, Mangyongdae District	10	465
second	Taedonggang Hotel	Kyongnim-dong, Central District	5	60
second	Pyongyang Hotel	Ohan-dong, Central District	5	170
second	Changgwangsan Hotel	Tongsong-dong, Central District	18	326
third	Haebangsan Hotel	Jungsong-dong, Central District	5	83

Restaurants

Restaurant	Speciality	Address
Ongnyu Restaurant	Pyongyang Cold Noodles	Kyongsang-dong Central District
Chongnyu Restaurant	Pyongyang Cold Noodles, rice cake	Tongsong-dong Central District
Pyongyang Seafood Restaurant	Pyongyang Cold Noodles, fish dishes	Taedongmun-dong, Central District
Pyongyang Noodle Restaurant	Pyongyang Cold Noodles	Thongil Street
Pyongyang Mullet Soup Restaurant	mullet soup with boiled rice	Thongil Street
Hyangmanru Restaurant	Chinese cuisine	Kwangbok Street
Aeguk Noodle Restaurant	Japanese cuisine	Changgwang Street
Western Restaurant	Western dishes	Changgwang Street

Scenic Spots

Mangyong Hill, Moran Hill, Mt. Taesong, Mt. Ryongak, etc.

Parks and Pleasure Grounds

The Mangyongdae Pleasure Ground, The Taesongsan Pleasure Ground, the Kaeson Youth Park, the Taedonggang Pleasure Park, the Pothonggang Pleasure Park, etc.

The visitors to the parks and funfairs enjoy the various kinds of recreation facilities.



There are many famous restaurants as well as the restaurants which serve various kinds of cuisines of the other countries. Service time: 12 to 9 p.m.

There are also several restaurants including Minjok and Taedonggang Restaurants which serve till late night.



Shops

There are many shops and department stores, small and large, including the Pyongyang Department Stores No. 1 and No. 2 and Yokjon Department Store.
All Shops serve from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. except the fixed rest day (once a week).



The doors open even on Sundays or holidays.

Currency

The currency exchange are available at the Foreign Trade Bank and its agencies at hotels, restaurants and shops.

The Foreign Trade Bank is open in the morning except Sunday.

There are 1-jon, 5-jon, 10-jon, 50-jon, 1-won, 5-won, 10-won and 50-won banknotes.

Transport

Visitors to Pyongyang take the cars or coaches served by the Korea International Travel Company. Besides, you can also take the subways, street railways, trolley buses and taxis.

Anywhere you go, the fare is as cheap as 10 jon except taxi fare.

Taxis can be called by telephone.



Pyongyang Metro

Telephone

Local phones can be made at hotels or public telephone boxes in the streets. When using the public phone, a ten-jon coin is required.

International calls can be made at hotels or the International Communications Centre.



Pyongyang Maternity Hospital

The Pyongyang Maternity Hospital is a large medicare centre for childbirth and women's diseases.

- . completed in 1980.
- . 60,000 square metres of a total floor space



May Day Stadium

It was completed in May, 1989 with the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students held in July ahead.

- . 207,000 square metres of a total floor space
- . 150,000 of seating capacity
- . A 60 metre-long pent roof
- . 80 exits

Video and Photo Services

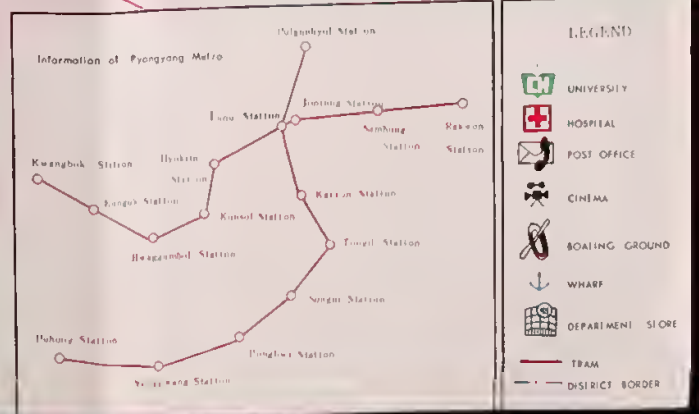
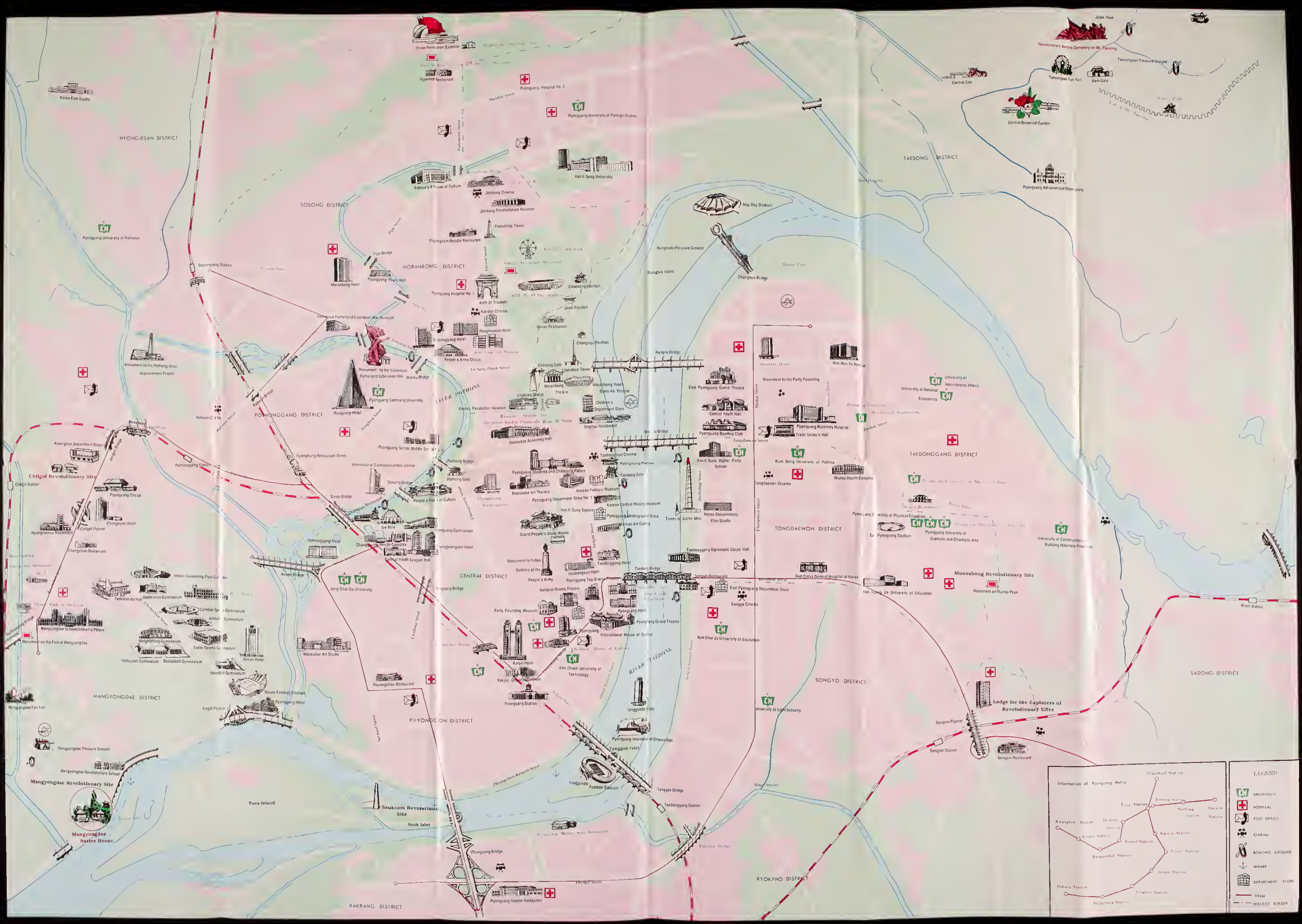
The Tourist Advertisement and Information Agency offers video and photo services so that you could remember the impressive travel days of Pyongyang.
You can buy video cassettes concerning on tourism or on other contents.



If you arrive in Pyongyang, you will stay at the hotels to your taste with the help of the Korea International Travel Company, a reliable travel guide.

Many qualified multi-language-speaking guides will help you in understanding Pyongyang.

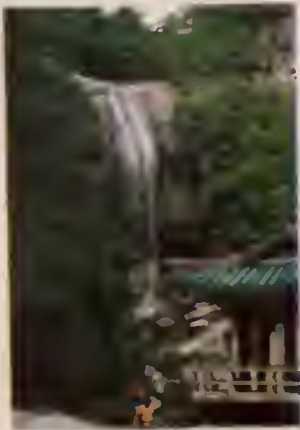
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Tel: 850-2-817201



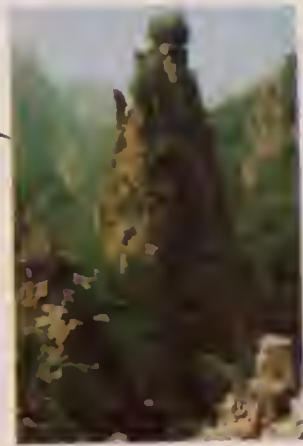


Mt Paekdu

Mt Myohyang



West Sea Barrage



Mt Kumgang

Phanmunjom



Pyongyang is the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

As it is located in the low area, "flat land" or "easy place", northwest of the Korean peninsula, it is called "Pyongyang".

To the northwest of Pyongyang are rows of mountains which extend like a folding screen, and low hills spread sparsely in the east, thus giving us a easy feeling.

The two rivers, Taedang, one of the five large rivers of Korea and Pathang flow peacefully like happy twins in the middle of the city.

Pyongyang is not only the capital but the centre of tourism of the DPRK.

Pyongyang has a distinct temperate climate with spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average annual
Temperature (°C)	7.5	4.4	9	9.8	16.0	20.6	24.2	24.4	18.7	11.6	3.8	4.3	9.5
Precipitation (mm)	4	2.5	28.3	53.2	62.5	90.9	281.7	247.9	109.1	42.2	36.7	21.4	1000.4

The History of Pyongyang

Pyongyang has been existing for 5,000 years as the capital.

The Tomb of Tangun, unearthed in 1993, is a precious cultural heritage which tells us the establishment of Korea (Kojoson) and the history of Pyongyang.

By discovering the remains of Tangun, the founder of Kojoson, who was only known as a fabled being, Korea is a country with a long history of over 5,000 years. And the Korean nation is homogeneous inherited the same blood from the time of its birth and Pyongyang has been clearly known as an original native place of the Korean nation where Tangun lies buried.

Pyongyang which had experienced the sufferings with its long history, has become the centre of politics, economy, culture and tourism after Korea was liberated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Humble as it was before the liberation, Pyongyang was completely destroyed to ashes due to the three-year Korean War (1950-1953).

But today it looks completely turned within 40 years and it shows surprising density in the arrangement of grand monumental structures and creations.

Sightseeing Districts

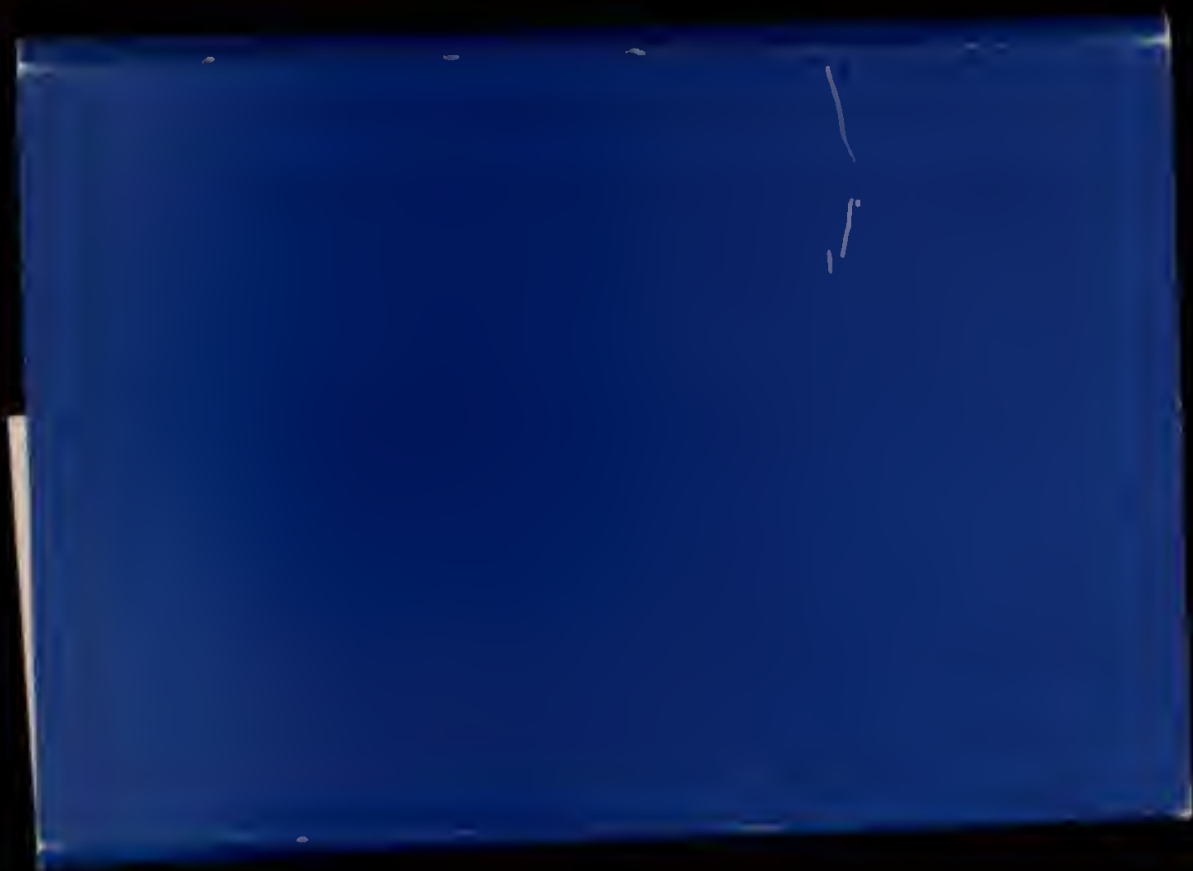
For the sake of convenience, Pyongyang is divided into the districts of Haebang Hill, Kim Il Sung Square, Mansu Hill, Moran Hill, the Pothonggang Pleasure Park, Kwangbok Street, Chongchun Street, Mangyongdae, Mt. Ryongak, East Pyongyang, Taedonggang Pleasure Park, Rungna Islet, Yanggak Islet, Ssuk Islet, Mt. Taesong, the Three-Revolution Exhibition and the districts of the outskirts (the Tomb of King Tongmyong, the Tomb of Tangun).

** 58 square metres of a green belt per head of citizen*



평양

조선 · 평양
1994





우 편 엽 서

조선·평양

인민의 귀원지 모란봉



우 편 엽 서

정액
조선·대한

파견 100
명양시



우 편 엽 서

조선·평양

장광거리



우 편 엽 서

조선·평양

만경대교향집



우 편 엽 서

조선 · 함양

대한민국의 우편



우 편 엽 서

조선·평양

통일거리



우 편 엽 서

조선·명인

5월 1일경기장



우 편 엽 서

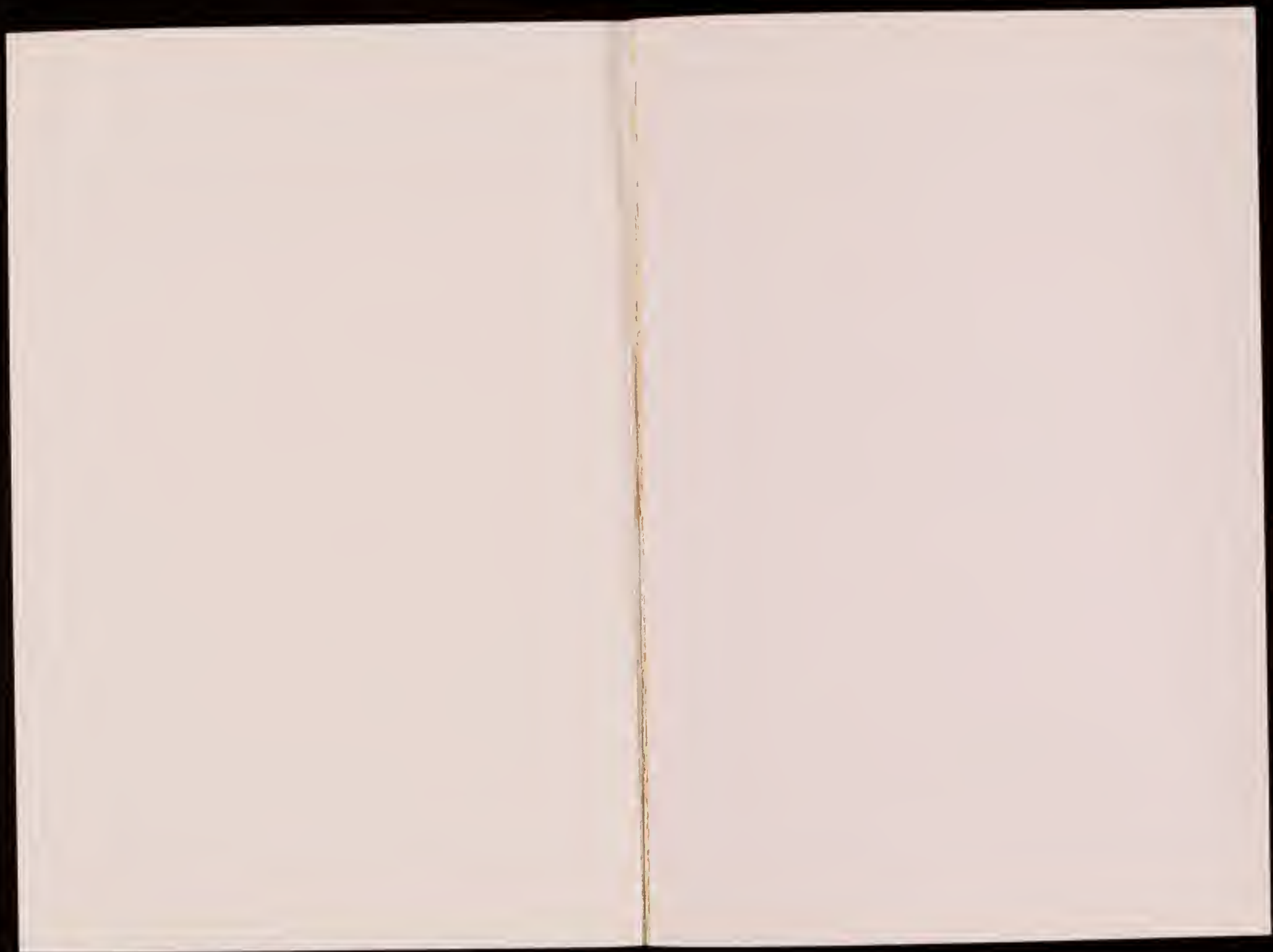
조선·평양

인민대학습당

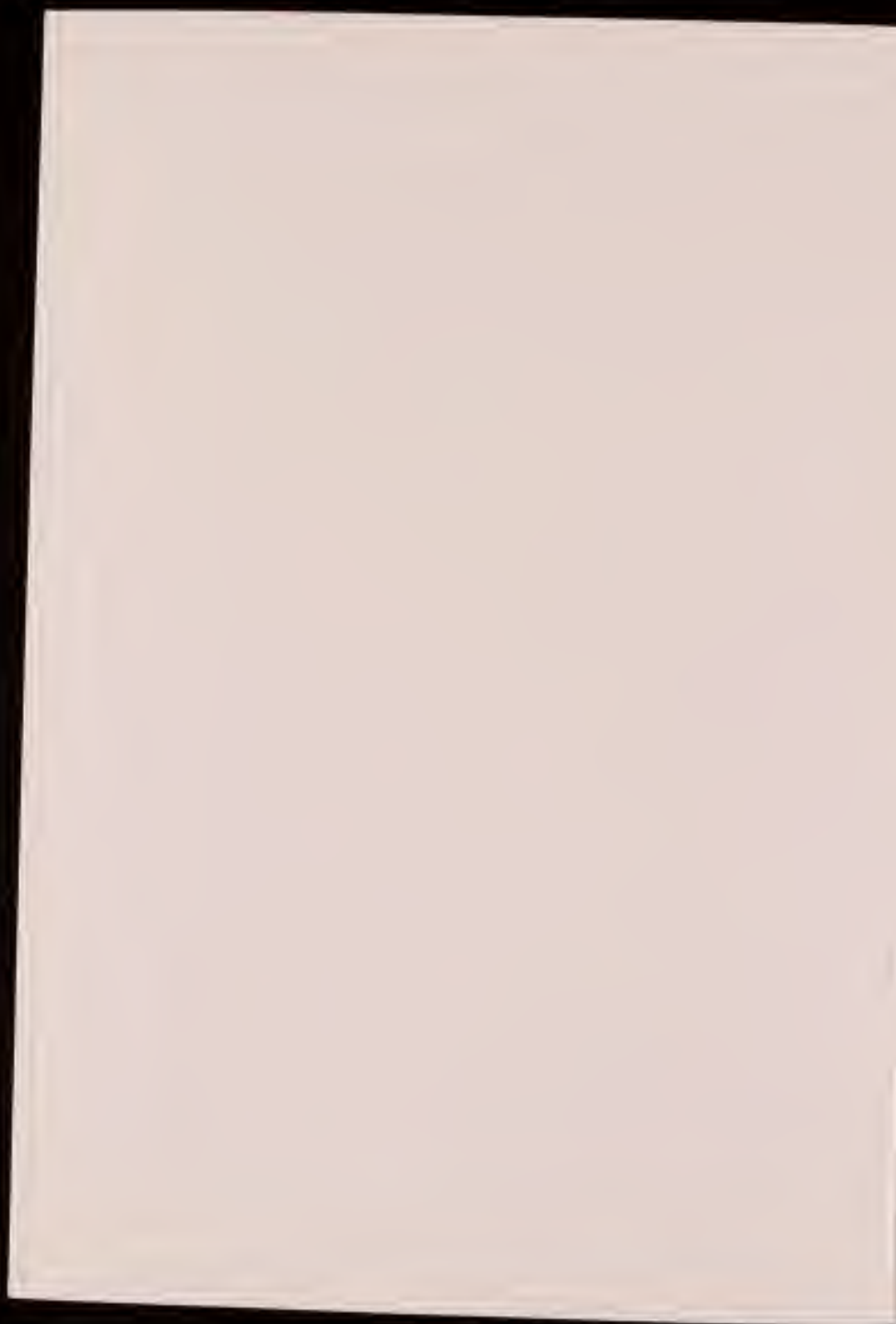
KIM IL SUNG

**ON THE THREE PRINCIPLES OF
NATIONAL REUNIFICATION**

**PYONGYANG, KOREA
1993**







WORKERS OF THE WHOLE WORLD, UNITE!

KIM IL SUNG

ON THE THREE PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL REUNIFICATION

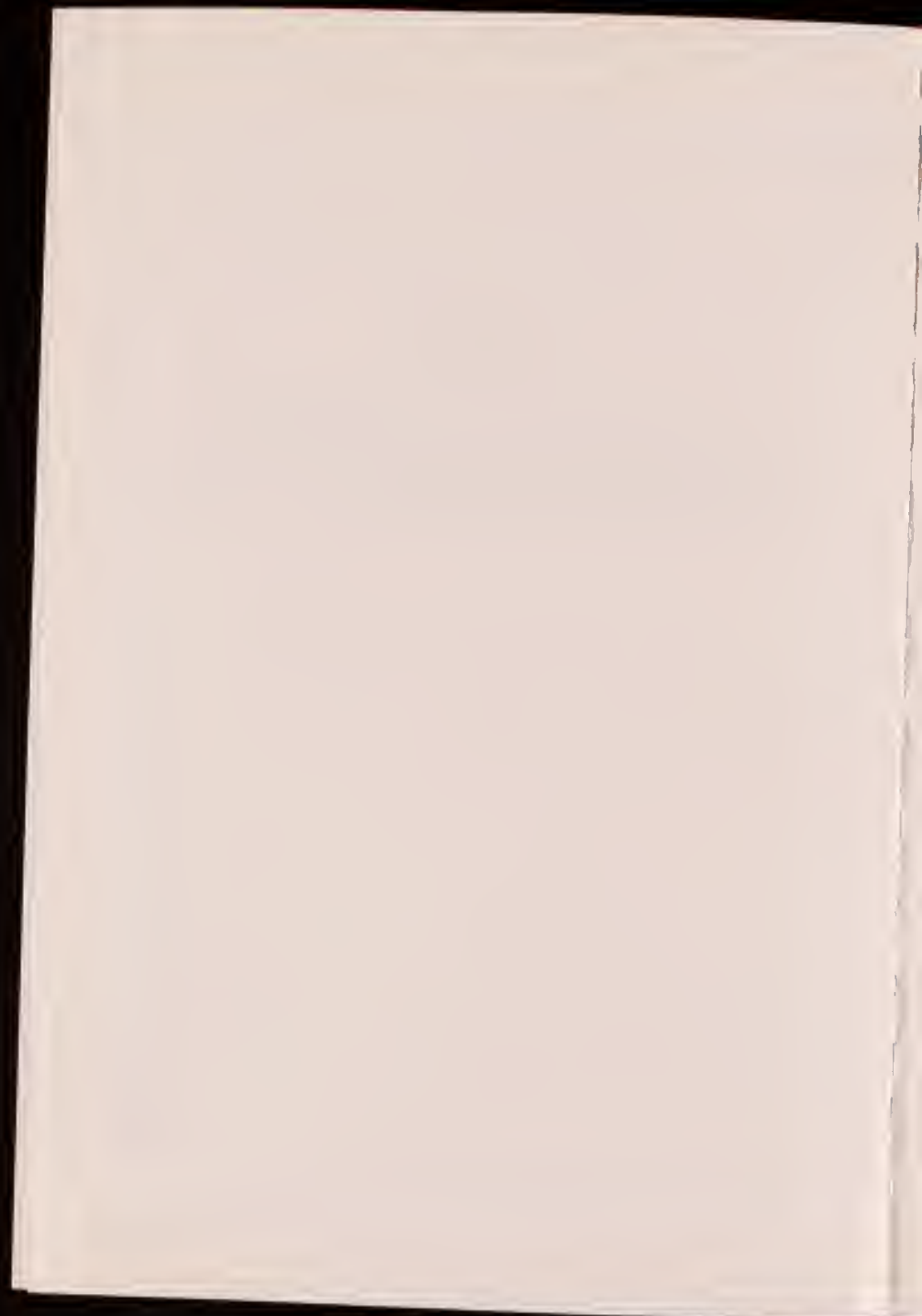
*Conversations with the South Korean
Delegates to the High-Level Political
Talks between North and South Korea
May 3 and November 3, 1972*

Foreign Languages Publishing House
Pyongyang, Korea
1993



CONTENTS

1. On the Three Principles of National Reunification 1
2. On Realizing North-South Cooperation..... 20



1. ON THE THREE PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL REUNIFICATION

I am glad to meet you today.

I am much delighted and also greatly moved that we, fellow countrymen, have met after a long separation owing to the division of the nation.

You say you have come to discuss the question of national reunification in spite of everything. Your act is very courageous and daring. It is very gratifying that the south Korean authorities have made a decision to participate in the north-south political talks and sent you as the delegate. We warmly hail the step.

In my speech of August 6 last year, I made it clear that we are ready to come into contact with all political parties including the Democratic Republican Party, social organizations and individuals of south Korea at any time. A few days after my speech, the south Korean side responded, agreeing to hold north-south Red Cross talks. Thus began the preliminary talks between the Red Cross organizations of the north and the south, which led to the high-level north-south political conversation.

Between the north and the south which stood alienated from each other for a long time, the doors for contacts and dialogues have been opened and it has become possible for high-level representatives to meet and exchange their views with an open mind. This is a big step towards the solution of the reunification question.

At present the whole nation is longing for the reunification of the country. Today nothing is more urgent for the Korean

people than national reunification. If we should fail to reunify the country as soon as possible and should allow national division to drag on, our nation may become a plaything of great powers and be divided into two for ever.

The most important indication which characterizes a nation is the commonness of language and cultural life. Even people of the same descent cannot be regarded as belonging to the same nation if they use different spoken and written languages and their cultures and customs differ. Now, as our country remains divided for long, the language, as well as the culture and way of life, is changing already in the north and the south. The longer the division of the nation, the greater the difference in the language and way of life will be.

After liberation some people in the northern half of the country insisted that the Korean alphabet should be reformed. But I opposed it. If we carry out an alphabet reform when the country is not reunified, the Korean people will be divided in two for ever. So I told the linguists at the time that an alphabet reform should be introduced, if ever, after the country has been reunified, but never before reunification. If any one side should carry out an alphabet reform while the country is divided, the north and the south would come to use different letters. Then, in the end our nation may be divided into two nations once and for all.

We cannot tolerate the Korean nation to be split into two for ever. We should reunify the country as soon as possible and hand over a unified country to the posterity. If we end national division and achieve reunification, our country can become a powerful state with a population of 50 million, a brilliant national culture, and a powerful national economy, which no one will dare provoke.

In order to reunify the country, it is necessary to correctly

establish the fundamental principles which can provide the basis for the solution of the reunification question. This is most important. Only when there are fundamental principles agreed upon by the north and the south, can the two sides make joint efforts for reunification and successfully solve all problems concerning it.

I believe that our reunification question should on all accounts be settled independently without foreign interference and peacefully on the principle of promoting great national unity.

First, national reunification should be achieved independently without reliance on outside forces and free from their interference.

Solving the reunification question independently on the principle of self-determination of peoples is the principled stand invariably maintained by the Government of our Republic.

If we depend on outside forces we cannot solve this problem. The question of Korean reunification is entirely an internal affair of our country. If we try to solve our internal affair by relying on outside forces without settling it on our own, it is a shame of our nation.

Some people are now trying to solve the reunification problem with guarantees afforded by big powers. It is a great mistake. The imperialist powers do not want to see our country reunified. By nature, they like division and attempt to divide other countries and peoples by all means, because it is difficult to rule when the latter are united. Therefore, we should on no account rely on the great powers in settling the reunification question. If contacts are established and talks are held within

our nation, we can remove distrust and misunderstanding and achieve national unity and reunification. Why then should we ask for the help of great powers?

Under no circumstances should we tolerate foreign interference in the internal affairs of Korea. No foreign force has the right to meddle in the Korean affairs, and while there is foreign interference the question of national reunification cannot be solved in keeping with the desire and interests of our nation. The reunification of the country should be achieved by the Korean people themselves free from any foreign interference.

You say that the south Korean authorities, too, are opposed to foreign interference and intend to settle the question of national reunification independently without US and Japanese involvement, and pledge that you will never become a stooge of the United States or Japan. If this is true, it is excellent.

If we are to reject foreign intervention and reunify the country independently, we must categorically oppose flunkeyism towards great powers.

I always say to our officials: if a man takes to flunkeyism, he will become a fool; if a nation falls into flunkeyism, the country will go to ruin; and if a party adopts flunkeyism, it will make a mess of the revolution and construction work. If a man wants to be an independent being, he must never take to flunkeyism which means worshipping others blindly.

As our country is geographically located among big countries, flunkeyism has found room a great deal among our people historically. It hampered the advance of our people in building a new society after liberation. So we have tirelessly combatted flunkeyism.

Let me take an example from the days after liberation. Immediately after liberation there were quite a few people who

had been affected with flunkeyism even among those who styled themselves as communists. In Seoul at that time, a fellow, Pak Hon Yong by name, raved that he would make our country a member republic of another country. This had a very bad influence on the south Korean people and greatly hindered the settlement of the reunification question. Hearing his words, some people feared if our country was going to be subjugated again to a foreign country. In my speech before the people, therefore, I said that we would build a democratic society of a Korean type, not a Soviet or American type, in the interests of the Korean nation.

When we advanced the policy of agricultural cooperativization in the postwar years, a number of people tried to find fault with it. Some argued how we could cooperativize agriculture when our industry had been devastated, alleging that European countries with developed industries had not yet undertaken full-scale agricultural cooperativization. Since flunkeyists used to accept willingly what people of big countries said, I refuted their argument with the words of Lenin. Lenin had said that a communal economy set up by a simple merger of peasants' lands and farm implements would be much more superior to a private economy. So I said that our Party's policy of agricultural cooperativization was in accord with Leninism and was to meet the requirement of our reality. I asked them how it could be that agricultural cooperativization after industrialization was the only correct way. In the end, they admitted that our view was correct.

At that time, the circumstances of our peasants, in fact, were such that they would be unable to live on unless they united their efforts through cooperativization. The war had devastated agriculture, and the peasants were short of

draught cattle and farm implements. The same was true of rich farmers. In this context, we saw to it that peasants organized cooperatives on the principle of voluntary membership and ran them by united efforts. Originally, we Koreans are fond of pooling efforts and helping one another. Traditionally, our people have a good custom. For instance, if a neighbour has a wedding ceremony, the whole village offer the family contributions and various other kinds of aid, calling on them to congratulate them and have a pleasant time with them. In the postwar years, there were not many modern farm machines in our country. But we were able to cooperativize agriculture rather smoothly in a short time because life itself required it urgently and the peasants actively supported the cooperative policy.

In establishing economic relations with other countries, we have thoroughly rejected the flunkeyist tendency and held fast to an independent stand.

We have not tolerated any relations that may result in our economic dependence on other countries. We have established and developed economic relations with them on the principle of defending the national economy thoroughly, on the principle of complete equality. In our trade with developed socialist countries, we have made sure that we give them raw materials they need only when they give us those we need, and that we buy their machines only on condition that they buy ours. If this principle was not maintained in our economic relations with developed countries when our technology is not yet very highly developed, we would have to keep supplying raw materials to them and buying manufactured goods. This would end in leaving only empty mountains riddled with holes in our country. We cannot hand down such mountains to our posterity, can we?

We strove hard not to be economically subordinated to another country, that is, to be self-supporting in the economy. If a people do not achieve economic independence through the building of an independent national economy, they cannot hope to exalt the external authority of their country and to have a say on the international arena. Since we have pursued an independent policy in the sphere of economic construction and built an independent national economy, nobody dare apply pressure on us.

In the past the worship of great powers was glaring in the field of literature and art, and we waged a resolute struggle against it.

Some of the writers and artists worshipped the European literature and art and produced works which were neither to the liking of the Koreans nor understandable to them. Once there were poets who worshipped Pushkin and musicians who adored Tchaikovsky. Even in creating an opera, these people patterned it on Italian ones. Flunkeyism was so rampant that some artists drew foreign landscapes instead of our beautiful mountains and rivers. During the Fatherland Liberation War I dropped in at a hospital where I found a picture of a Siberian landscape. It showed a bear crawling about the snow-covered ground under a large tree. So, I severely criticized people concerned. I told them: "There are many renowned mountains such as Mts. Kumgang and Myohyang. Why did you hang that kind of picture instead of a beautiful Korean landscape? What is the good of hanging such a picture in educating our people?"

The Korean people have a brilliant culture and have long lived in the beautiful land of three thousand *ri*. They will live in our beautiful homeland in the future, too. They cannot live in Siberia or in Europe. Therefore, our literature and

art should, on all accounts, serve the education of our people in patriotic spirit. Internationalism cannot exist apart from patriotism. He who does not love his own country cannot be true to internationalism. Koreans do not like European artistic works. They do not want to see artistic works which are not to their liking. We do not need the works which Koreans do not like and which are not congenial with their national feeling. That is why I gave a definition that the literature and art of socialist realism are national in form and socialist in content.

We conducted the struggle against flunkeyism by means of ideological struggle, theoretical struggle to root out ideas of flunkeyism remaining in the minds of people. Through many years of struggle against flunkeyism, we could eradicate it completely and hold fast to independence in all spheres of the revolution and construction.

In the efforts to solve the question of national reunification, we must strongly oppose the tendency of flunkeyism to rely on foreigners disbelieving the strength of our own nation. We must reunify the country independently by the united efforts of the Korean nation.

Secondly, great national unity should be promoted by transcending the differences in ideas, ideals and systems.

The question of our country's reunification is not one of who prevails over whom. It is one of attaining the unity of a nation which has been divided by an outside force and realizing national sovereignty. In order to reunify the country, therefore, it is essential to proceed from endeavours to achieve unity between the north and the south and promote great national unity.

In order to promote great national unity, the north and the south should transcend their ideas and systems and refrain from pursuing hostile policies towards each other.

At present there exist different ideas and systems in the two parts of our country. In this situation, the north and the south should not try to impose their ideas and systems upon each other. We do not intend to impose the socialist system and communist ideology on south Korea. Neither should the south Korean authorities insist on "unification through the annihilation of communism" nor demand that we desist from communism. In other words, they should discard their "anti-communist" slogans.

The north and the south should discard hostile policies which obstruct unity, and join efforts to find common denominators. If each side does not endeavour to find common denominators but opposes the other and argues over things of the past in an attempt to justify itself, the gap between the two sides will grow wider and wider and the reunification of the country will be delayed still more. This would be a grave crime against the country and the nation.

In our opinion, it is quite possible to find common denominators if the north and the south make joint efforts, basing themselves on a sincere desire for unity. We have worked hard to find out such common denominators in order to hasten the country's reunification.

Of late, the south Korean authorities talk about "self-help", "self-reliance" and "self-defence". We considered that it is possible to find some common denominators here. We think that their "self-help", "self-reliance" and "self-defence" may have some common points with the independent policies of our Party and the Government of the Republic. The country's reunification will be hastened if the north and the south find

out one by one common denominators existing between them and, on this basis, achieve their unity.

What is important in achieving the great unity of the nation is to remove misunderstanding and mistrust between north and south.

Our country has been divided so long that there are a number of points on which the north and the south differ from each other and misunderstand and mistrust each other. As long as the two sides misunderstand and distrust each other, there cannot be a genuine unity of the nation. A family cannot be formed without deep trust between husband and wife. Even in the case of husband and wife, if they do not trust each other, they cannot live together and, in the long run, they will have to divorce. The north and the south should strive to eliminate mutual misunderstanding and mistrust.

To this end, the authorities and many personages of the two parts of the country should frequently get in touch with each other and have dialogues in good faith. If they get together and discuss any matters frankly and seriously, misunderstanding will be removed and mutual trust deepened.

Through our dialogue with you this time, the misunderstanding between the north and the south has already been alleviated to a considerable extent. The dialogue between the north and the south should have been held a little earlier.

We have thought that the south Korean authorities are going to be lackeys of US imperialism and Japanese militarism and sell out the country. But you say that such will never be the case. You also say that the south Korean authorities will neither bring Japanese militarists into south Korea again nor sell out the country as the lackeys of the United States and Japan, and request us over and over again to believe it. So we can believe you and get rid of our past distrust.

The south Korean authorities say they have had a misunderstanding that we are going to "invade the south" and "communize" south Korea. But we have no intention to do these. We have declared on many occasions that we have no intention to "invade the south". We reaffirm this to you today. As for "communization", neither do we intend to "communize" south Korea nor would it be "communized" even if we tried to. Therefore, I think that you can now dispel the misunderstanding you have had because of the alleged "invasion of the south" and "communization". If we remove our misunderstanding and deepen trust through contacts and dialogues in this way, we will be able to achieve great national unity regardless of the differences in ideas and ideals, systems and religious beliefs.

Another important factor in achieving great national unity is that the north and the south should refrain from abusing and slandering each other.

For unity and cooperation, both sides should respect each other rather than abuse and slander. Should they continue abusing and slandering each other as they do now, the north and the south would not get on intimate terms, but rather the gap would widen. That is why they should first stop abusing and slandering each other.

Realizing economic cooperation between the north and the south is also very important in attaining great national unity.

The northern half of the Republic abounds in natural resources and has a developed heavy industry. South Korea has some foundations of light industry from the past. If the north and the south effect economic cooperation and meet each other's needs, they will be better able to solve immediate economic problems, and rapidly develop the national economy with their own efforts without introducing foreign capital. If

the national economy is developed through north-south cooperation, our nation will be better off than Japan or any other countries that are said to be developed.

The north and the south should advance jointly in the external relations, too. Only then will we be able to demonstrate the unity of our nation.

We consider that the north and the south will be able to promote great national unity in spite of the differences in their ideas and systems, political views and religious beliefs, if they all take a patriotic attitude and stand for national reunification. At present, even those countries and nations which have different ideas and systems, are in friendly relations and get along well. And there is no reason why the differences in ideas and systems should prevent our nation, which is of the same blood, from uniting and cooperating.

Whether one believes in communism, nationalism or capitalism cannot be an obstacle to great national unity. We are not opposed to the nationalists and capitalists in south Korea. The majority of the south Korean capitalists are national capitalists. We have been pursuing a policy of protecting national capitalists. For the sake of national reunification, we will unite and cooperate with the people of all strata in south Korea including nationalists and national capitalists.

Thirdly, national reunification should be achieved by peaceful means without resorting to arms.

The north and the south, one and the same nation, must not fight each other. We must reunify the divided country peacefully by all means. If peaceful reunification fails and another war breaks out in Korea, our nation will undergo disasters.

At present great powers of the world want to get on well

with one another, refraining from quarrelling. Some time ago US President Nixon visited China and said that it would be desirable to abstain from quarrelling with each other and maintain peace for one generation's time. After inspecting the Great Wall of China, he even said that no barrier should divide the people of the world. In the joint statement of China and the United States published as a result of Nixon's visit to China, the United States approved the five principles of peace which it had so far refused to recognize. It is good that the United States approved these principles. Needless to say, we shall have to wait and see how the Americans would put their words into action. More often than not the imperialists go back on their words. So there is no knowing clearly if Nixon spoke sincerely or not in China.

Commenting on Nixon's trip to China, our *Rodong Sinmun* wrote: If Nixon's words uttered after inspecting the Great Wall are serious, why does he not make efforts to remove the Military Demarcation Line which runs across the central part of our country and to withdraw the US soldiers who are swaggering about, wearing steel-helmets with the inscription of "MP"? I think this commentary is correct.

Nowadays, big powers of the world are trying to abstain from quarrelling and get on harmoniously with one another. Then why should one and the same nation fall out with itself? As the same nation, we must not quarrel among ourselves; we must reunify the country by peaceful means.

If the country is to be reunified peacefully without conflicts between the north and the south, it is imperative, first of all, to reduce the armies of both sides. On several occasions, I said in my open speeches that the armies of the north and the south should be reduced sharply.

Reduction of the armies is the way to ease the tension

between the two sides and to lessen the military burdens. The present military burdens of the two sides are very heavy.

We should make joint efforts to remove the Military Demarcation Line which divides our country into north and south.

Danger of war cannot be removed in the present situation when large armed forces of both sides stand in confrontation across the Military Demarcation Line. In such a situation, if the commander of a regiment or a division stationed in the area along this demarcation line opens fire by mistake at a place, both sides will come to exchange fire, and this may lead to a conflict. This is very dangerous.

If in the future the north and the south give guarantee against the use of armed forces between them through sincere consultation, and put this into practice, their military equipment and personnel deployed in the areas on the Military Demarcation Line will become unnecessary and the line itself can be eliminated.

At present, the north and the south say their armies are for self-defence. However, they should not undertake "self-defence" against each other. They must join efforts to defend themselves against foreign invasion.

The self-defence of our Republic is always meant to oppose foreign aggression against our nation. We will never tolerate the aggression of outside forces against our country and people.

When the US imperialists sent their armed spy ship "Pueblo" into the territorial waters of our Republic, the naval forces of our People's Army captured it. This was a legitimate self-defence measure of our People's Army whose mission is to defend their country. But instead of apologizing to us, the Americans threatened us by bringing large forces including the

aircraft carrier "Enterprise" to the East Sea. It was a flagrant infringement on and a grave challenge to our nation's sovereignty. We never yielded to the Americans' threat and pressure. They attempted to start war by mobilizing large forces, so we made a firm determination to fight against them. Seeing that we did not succumb to their threat and pressure, they gave up starting a war and fled away. Had they unleashed war at that time our nation would have gone through another war and the authorities of the north and the south could not meet and have a peaceful talk like this today.

If any foreigners invade our land in the future, the north and the south must unite and repulse the invaders. When all the Korean people unite their strength, they will certainly smash any aggressor.

We must eliminate military confrontation and ease tensions between the north and the south by joint efforts, so that we can prevent another war in Korea and achieve the peaceful reunification of the country.

Through the recent talks we have found important common denominators of the north and the south and reached an agreement regarding the most cardinal problems.

The three principles of realizing independent reunification without outside interference, achieving great national unity by transcending the differences in ideas, ideals and systems, and reunifying the divided land by peaceful means without recourse to armed forces, are the starting point of and the basis for the solution of our reunification question.

You have agreed to solve the reunification question on the three principles, and you say the highest authorities of south Korea will also agree. So we can say we have reached a complete agreement on the three principles of national reunification.

I am very pleased that the three principles of national reunification have been agreed upon between the north and the south in our talks today.

The three principles of national reunification upon which the north and the south agreed through joint consultation are absolutely just principles which will enable our nation to solve the reunification question in conformity with its aspirations and demand. We must reunify our country on these three principles. You vowed that you would take them as the basis for your future actions. If you do so, other problems concerning the solution of the reunification question can also be settled successfully and our nation's reunification will be achieved at an early date.

Now that the basic principles of reunification have been agreed upon, we must find the concrete ways of putting them into effect to unite the whole nation and reunify our country. We must always proceed from the three principles in seeking concrete ways for national reunification. When the north and the south study profoundly and sincerely consult each other on the basis of the three principles of independence, great national unity and peaceful reunification, they will be able to find the successful way towards reunification.

To find the reasonable way to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, we have to develop further political consultations between the north and the south and carry on contacts and dialogues more briskly.

I think that political consultations have already begun through the meetings and talks held this time between the high-ranking representatives of the north and the south. North-south political consultations having been started, we must further them to bear a good fruit.

You have come first to Pyongyang, so I would like to send

our representatives to Seoul in return. I think that if mutual trust increases and various conditions become ripe in the process of frequent visits of representatives from the north and the south, summit talks will also become possible.

In the future representatives of the north and the south must exchange frequent visits and have a great deal of talks.

The misunderstanding and distrust created between the north and the south during the nearly 30 year-long division after liberation can never be eliminated through one or two contacts and dialogues. One or two meetings and consultations will not be enough to find out all the concrete ways for the solution of the reunification question. Through our talks this time we have solved fundamental problems upon which the north and the south misunderstood each other and have found important common denominators, but many problems are yet to be solved to reunify the country. These problems can be solved only through frequent contacts and sincere consultations between representatives of both sides.

In the north-south negotiations and consultations, the points of mutual misunderstanding and all other problems concerning national reunification must be discussed. Any dissenting opinions must be aired frankly for discussion. If they are kept to oneself, the differences cannot be solved. A misunderstanding, however insignificant, must be discussed openly and settled in good time.

The north-south negotiations must proceed from the principle of deepening mutual understanding, finding common points and increasing their unity. Our representatives and yours may advance different views in seeking the way to national reunification. So they may argue for the justness of their own views respectively. But the arguments should always

be intended for finding common denotations and achieving unity and reunification, not for split.

I think it reasonable to organize and run a north-south joint commission or the like in order to coordinate the north-south relations correctly and successfully solve various problems regarding the reunification of the country.

Coordinating work should be conducted in practice by organizing a joint commission. If only general talks are held, big progress cannot be made in bringing about national unity and reunification.

The joint commission can be co-chaired by persons in high authority appointed respectively by the authorities of the north and the south and be composed of necessary members. It takes only a little time to fly between Pyongyang and Seoul. So, the commission can be steered, you coming over to Pyongyang and our people going to Seoul.

Once the joint commission is formed, there will be many problems to be settled by it. It should opportunely discuss and settle various problems arising from the relations between north and south, including the problem of one side refraining from slandering the other side and the problem of preventing military conflicts. At the joint commission one side should not force its will upon the other; problems raised should be seriously discussed until mutual understanding is reached to conform with the purpose of unity.

A direct telephone line may be installed between Pyongyang and Seoul, by which to discuss problems at any time. If there arises even a minor problem which may hamper national reunification or cause misunderstanding between both sides, it is necessary to inquire about it at once by telephone, talk it over and settle it promptly.

The three principles of national reunification agreed upon this

time between north and south serve as a reunification programme to be put into effect jointly by the entire Korean nation. I think it a good idea to make public these three principles so that the entire Korean people and the world's people will know them.

The publication of the three principles of national reunification is good both for the education of our people and for demonstrating the unity of the Korean nation to the world. If we publish the reunification programme agreed upon between north and south, all compatriots at home and abroad will have a consensus of opinion, being aware that we are going to reunify the divided country independently and peacefully on the principle of a great national unity, and all segments of people will have a great encouragement from it. When we publish the joint reunification programme of the nation, the world's people will know that the Korean people are a great united people and the foreign forces opposed to our country's reunification will clearly understand that they will never be able to divide the Korean nation permanently, however hard they may try.

As for when and how we should publish the three principles of national reunification, it had better be discussed in the course of the forthcoming dialogue. I think it will do to publish it when an agreement is reached at another meeting of the delegates of both sides after the matter is taken up by the south Korean authorities upon your return to Seoul.

Since you took the trouble to come to Pyongyang, you had better stay another day and have talks with our officials.

Your visiting us is a patriotic deed. Man should be a patriot, not a quisling. Man should do things beneficial to his country and people even if he lives for a day. Only such a life is glorious and worthwhile.

We can say that the current north-south talks were a suc-

cess. I hope you to come to Pyongyang frequently from now on.

2. ON REALIZING NORTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

It gives me pleasure to meet you south Korean delegates again. Last time the delegate came alone from the south Korean side. But this time you have come together. If the north and the south have frequent contacts like this, it will be greatly helpful towards the settlement of the question of national reunification, I think.

There was some progress in the work for national reunification after the publication of the North-South Joint Statement. In the past our people, torn apart in the north and the south, were even unable to meet each other. But, today delegates visit each other to meet. This is already a progress. If delegates of the north and the south visit and meet each other frequently, get acquainted and exchange views with each other, they can settle many problems for national reunification.

We must reunify the country as soon as possible at all costs. If we fail to reunify the country and keep it divided, our nation will remain partitioned in two for ever.

Our nation must never be divided in two. Koreans have lived as a single nation on one and the same territory from remote times. Our people are of one and the same blood and have one culture and history. The Korean people have a strong national spirit and a high national pride. Having occupied our country for 36 years, the Japanese imperialists even forced the Koreans to change their surnames in Japanese style, raving that "Japan and Korea are one". But they could

not succeed in making Japanese of Koreans. How can such a nation be divided into two today? We must never allow our nation to split but reunify the country without fail within our generation.

Brothers both in the north and the south must be having the same desire for national reunification. I think you are on this visit to us because you, too, wish national reunification.

But, in spite of the North-South Joint Statement, "confrontation accompanied with dialogue" and "competition accompanied with dialogue" are voiced as ever from among the press in south Korea. Confrontation or competition literally means contending with each other for victory. In that case, there will be winner and loser. Contending with other country or other nation might be a different matter. But one and the same nation should not engage in confrontation and competition. If this is done, it will be impossible to achieve national union and reunification.

The north and the south should cooperate, instead of engaging in confrontation and competition. Cooperation implies united efforts and joint work. Since the north-south dialogue has begun, I think, it is time for cooperation now. The north and the south must not confine themselves to the dialogue, but must go one step forward to cooperation.

When the north and the south cooperate with each other, strength of the nation will further grow in this course, and solid foundations for national reunification be laid. Only when they work together, can they overcome all their difficulties successfully and achieve earlier the cause of reunification, the greatest national desire.

The north and the south should cooperate, to begin with, in the economic field.

If they begin with economic cooperation and work together

step by step, they will be able to remove misunderstanding and understand each other better. If they merely say they trust each other, it will be impossible to know who has what in his mind. When working together, they will resolve misunderstood problems, trust each other better and achieve national unity.

Our country has a large population and rich natural resources. The north-south cooperation will enable us to develop our national economy rapidly and make our country rich and strong. Economic cooperation between the two parts of the country will resolve the problem of the people's livelihood better, and our people will lead as happy a life as any other people.

There is every possibility of this economic cooperation. The north and the south can exploit mineral resources jointly, develop the division of labour and interchange and use jointly the results of scientific and technological researches.

The northern half of the Republic is very rich in mineral resources, deposits of iron ore in particular are unfathomable.

The Japanese imperialists are said to have plundered a great deal of our resources in the past. But they just licked the rind of a watermelon, so to speak. Our prospecting workers have discovered large iron ore deposits in the places where the Japanese imperialists said there was nothing. An iron ore deposit with an estimated amount of hundreds of millions of tons was recently discovered in Kaechon district and another with thousands of millions of tons also was secured in South Hwanghae Province. A colossal amount of iron ore is deposited in Phungsan and other northern inland areas. It is more than ten billion tons even according to the preliminary estimate made by our prospectors.

The quality of our iron ore is very high. All of it contains over 35 per cent of iron. This indicates that it is of good quali-

ty by the world standard. At present the Japanese envy us our iron ore.

The northern half is abundant not only in iron ore, but also in other mineral resources such as lead, zinc and copper. In former days the Japanese imperialists claimed that there was no nickel in our country. However, we found it for ourselves later and are producing a great deal of alloys.

It is said that south Korea is building industry, but I presume that it is a problem how to supply the raw materials it needs. They may import them, but why buy them from far-off foreign countries, while our country has inexhaustible resources? If the north and the south join hands and develop the abundant mineral resources, it will be possible to develop the metal and engineering industries and many other branches, without going to the trouble of importing them.

Only when we rely on our own raw materials in developing the engineering industry, can we increase the economic power of the nation. Since immediately after liberation we have exerted great efforts to develop the engineering industry. The result is that it is on a very high level of development now. Only when we develop the engineering industry and make machines for export, can we maintain economic relations with other countries on an equal footing and improve the people's living standards. At present we export trucks, tractors and many other machines, and there are large demands for them.

Aquatic resources, too, are abundant in the northern half of the Republic.

Every year 5-6 million tons of pollacks swarm into our East Sea. This is the figure estimated by scientists and the exact amount still remains unknown. It is said that when their swarming is at its height, the shoal is 3,000 metres wide and 5,000 metres long and the depth is unfathomable. Though such

a tremendous amount of pollacks rush in shoal after shoal, we are in a position to catch only 600,000 tons at most. This means that we catch only 10 per cent of the fish that surge in. According to scientists, the resources of pollacks do not shrink even if they are caught up to 50 per cent. Therefore, we may catch 2.5 million tons of pollacks in our East Sea every year. If the fishermen in the north and the south pool their efforts, it is possible to catch a great deal of them. This will enable them all to be well-off.

We deem it necessary that the north and the south divide work in the economic sphere. If the economy is developed through division of production between the north and the south, one producing this and the other producing that, this will markedly lighten the burdens of both sides and give them much benefits economically.

We should realize north-south cooperation in the cultural sphere, too.

This alone will enable the Korean people to preserve their peculiar national traits as a homogeneous people and will ensure the uniform development of our national culture.

The north and the south should cooperate in the sphere of linguistics and develop our national language in a unified way. When people from both parts of the country meet and speak to each other, they find many words incomprehensible, and this sometimes causes misunderstanding between them. If the north-south gap in language is enlarged, national division cannot be evaded. We should thoroughly prevent the language differentiation from causing our nation to be split into two different nations. Linguists in the north and the south should cooperate with each other in their research and readjustment work for ensuring the commonness of spoken and written language. When they get together and discuss, they will be able to keep

the merits of our language alive and to develop them further.

In the sphere of science, too, the north and the south should realize exchange and cooperation. In the two zones there are many talented scientists. In one scientific branch the scientists in the north may be better informed than those in the south, and in another scientific branch the latter better informed. Therefore, if the scientists in the two zones join strength and wisdom, they can achieve great success in scientific research and rapidly develop our country into a modern industrial state.

We should also realize cooperation in the field of sports. If the north and the south cooperate in this sphere, they can bring about good results in international contests. Our sportsmen register excellent results in international events even when taking part in them separately. If the north and the south form a single team and jointly enter international games, they will be able to hold the supremacy. Originally, the Korean people have a strong fighting spirit. This is well known to the people of the world. In international events our sportsmen win the games more often with their fighting spirit than with their techniques. In the future, we must see to it that a single team is formed with excellent players selected from the two zones to participate in Olympic and other international games.

The north and the south should cooperate with each other not only in the economic and cultural fields but also in the political domain.

Economic and cultural cooperation should naturally develop into political cooperation. Only when we cooperate with each other politically, can we effectively cooperate both in economic and cultural fields.

You and we differ from each other in the methods of viewing things. So there may be difference in views in realizing cooperation. You look into each of the problems separately as

if they were isolated. But we study things from the viewpoint that they are all interrelated, acting upon one another. All fields of society including politics, the economy, culture and military are related with one another and develop through interaction. This is a law of social movement. No social problem can find a correct solution unless it is viewed in its relation with other problems. If political questions are to be settled, economic and cultural problems should be resolved and vice versa.

If the north and the south do not cooperate politically, their economic and cultural cooperation cannot be realized effectively, even though both sides wish to.

For instance, the problem of finding out families and relatives separated to the north and the south now under discussion at the talks between the Red Cross organizations of the north and the south looks like a simple question at first, but it cannot be settled easily so long as political distrust exists between both sides.

It is said that among the representatives from south Korea at the time of the north-south Red Cross talks there was a person who had his relative in the north. I was told that, when our officials had asked him to meet his relative over here, he had declined it, saying that he would meet him later. I think this was because he was hesitant to see his relative in the northern half. I presume that at present there are people in south Korea who are hesitant to meet their relatives in the north and also those who make a secret of their relatives living in the north. Such being the situation, the efforts of the north-south Red Cross organizations alone would not be enough to find out properly the families and relatives scattered to the north and the south and help them meet each other freely. So we consider that if this matter is to be settled satisfactorily, political

cooperation must be realized between the north and the south.

The question of easing the tensions between the north and the south and reducing armaments, too, can only be resolved when political cooperation is realized.

As a matter of course, the problem of peacefully reunifying Korea without recourse to arms between the north and the south is clarified in the North-South Joint Statement. Although the joint statement declared that the north and the south would not resort to arms, both sides are continuing war preparations, for fear of possible war in the future. You continue to import guns with aid from the United States and we continue to manufacture them on our own. As long as this situation continues, tensions in our country cannot be eased. Today in our country there are many soldiers, and the military burdens on our people are heavy. A total of 200,000 troops for north and south will be enough to defend the country from foreign invasion. If they cooperate politically, the north and the south can deepen their trust, ease tensions, reduce the military strength to some 100,000 respectively and thus lighten the military burdens on the people.

Only when political cooperation is realized can all problems arising in the economic, cultural and military fields be settled. Therefore, we should not confine ourselves to economic and cultural cooperation, but go further to political cooperation.

Political cooperation is not a difficult problem at all. There is no reason why we should not cooperate politically. The existence of different systems in north and south is by no means an insurmountable barrier to political collaboration.

It seems that at present some people in south Korea take socialism for something to fear. But it has nothing to be afraid of.

trust; this is the only way to quickly realize the north-south collaboration, I think.

We will believe you since the south Korean authorities say that they will push US troops out and will not usher in Japan. The question is that the south Korean side misunderstands and distrusts us. We are the same fellow countrymen gathered here; so, if there is anything you are misunderstanding, you should tell us frankly. If you conceal your disagreement and just read out the prepared statement before going back, it is impossible to remove misunderstanding. In order to dispel misunderstanding, we should have a frank dialogue.

If they are to achieve unity and cooperation, the north and the south must refrain from abusing and slandering each other. We are taking patience with regard to the slanders of the south Korean authorities against us. If you really want collaboration with us, you must stop your anti-communist propaganda. Since we are desirous of collaborating with the south Korean side, we will not slander you.

When I met the south Korean representative last, I said it would be better to form and run a kind of north-south joint commission so as to properly coordinate north-south relations and successfully solve problems arising in reunifying the country. We should form a north-south coordination commission this time. I do not think there will be any big problems in doing this. We should form it quickly and run it properly.

The coordination commission should not engage in empty talks but properly coordinate north-south relations and steadily solve various problems arising in national reunification one by one. It would be a good idea that upon the formation of the commission, both sides, in token of mutual trust, should take measures to curtail their respective armed forces, set political

prisoners free and guarantee the freedom of activities to political parties.

The door between the north and the south, which has been opened now, must not be closed again. If it is closed again, we shall be blamed by the world's people as well as by our nation.

Once we have opened the door and begun to tackle with the task, we should acquit ourselves well of it and exalt the honour of the Korean nation before the whole world.

The sooner the country's reunification, the better. If we delay the solution of the reunification question indefinitely, there will be nothing good for us. We should, all of us, work together and reunify the country as early as possible.



*Printed in the Democratic People's
Republic of Korea*

No. 205154





rundi, Kenya, and Zambia
he arrived in the United

rambere joins a long list of
cal figures who dared to

Ziherambere had to give up his
home.

He was finally able to bring his
family to the United States this
year. His wife and children live

one another, and to seek recon-
ciliation."

Asked whether he still main-
tains contact with family and
friends back home, he answered

land, N.J. 07450.

Leo S. Thome is an associate professor of
English at Fairleigh Dickinson University and
pastor of the Hamapo Valley Baptist Church in
Oakland.

N. Korea churches growing

By REV. PAUL H. KIM

In October, Bongsu Church in
Pyongyang, North Korea, will
celebrate its 10th anniversary. It
was the first church built in so-
cialist North Korea since the Ko-
rean War. Since then, the Catho-
lic Jangchung Church and the
Protestant Chilgol Church have
been built.

The North Korean Christian
community is said to number
around 15,000 to 20,000. The
Christian Federation says it has
around 10,000 registered mem-
bers who are connected to its 500-
plus "house churches." A house
church is a neighborhood gather-
ing of five to 10 Christians who
meet in members' homes, most of
the time without any clergy.

Some 10 clergy work as "roving
pastors" to these 500 house
churches. The Catholic Federa-
tion says its number is a little
lower, but they have no priest
serving them. They have been
talking with the Vatican and the
South Korean church about this
need.

Before the Korean War, Pyon-
gyang, the capital of North Ko-
rea, was known as the Jerusalem
of the East because it was a cen-
ter of Christian activity. With
more than 200 churches and
100,000 Christians, Pyongyang
truly became a "holy" city on Sun-
days. But the Korean War left the
Christian community nearly
decimated.

Along with millions of others,
thousands of Christians joined
the steady flow of refugees to-
ward the south as news of a pos-
sible atomic bombing of North
Korea spread. In addition, many
Communists persecuted Chris-
tians, forcing them to flee from
their hometowns. The war ended
with a divided Korea, and mil-
lions of families still remain sep-
arated from their loved ones.

After the war, Christians who
remained in the north found
themselves under much pres-
sure. The socialist constitution
allowed them freedom of religion.
But because religions were con-



Western Wall of the ancient Jewish Temple is considered the ideal prayer site for Passover.

the Diaspora is a day de-
work or travel. It was dis-
ing, to say the least, to
fervently Orthodox Jews
saalem boarding buses and
ng throughout the city on
that I had always treated

he other hand, American
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ays of Passover, which are
as Hol Hamo'ed, as a
between the two other
of the holiday. Many go to
engage in other everyday
as. Throughout my adult

life, I had always worked on Hol
Hamo'ed. Indeed, only a handful
of my friends and neighbors
choose to treat these intermedi-
ate days as quasi-holidays.

In Israel, however, virtually no
one works during Hol Hamo'ed.
Even the most secular Jewish
citizens celebrate, and many
people seemed to spend the time
touring. Wherever I went, I ob-
served Israelis of all backgrounds
visiting sites of both religious and
historical significance. They were
dressed typically in their finest
clothes, and the touring parties

included children and grandpar-
ents. It was a charming sight, to
say the least.

When I returned to my home in
Teaneck following that Passover,
I vowed to get back to Jerusalem
as frequently as possible to relive
the experience. It has taken me
five years to reach that goal, but I
am looking forward to celebrating
Passover 5758 next week once
again in Jerusalem.

Jerome Milch is secretary of the UJA Federa-
tion of Bergen County and North Hudson, and
vice president of the Frisch School in Paramus.

rough art, on persecution

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rough art, on persecution

Kurdish women wearing resses glittering with golden coins, scenes of es sitting on the floor Per- tyle to share meals of and flat Iranian bread, omantic illustrations of n literature.

I looked at these scenes lked with the artist, I re- I was mistaken for many

To think that since n Baha'is in North Jersey ee to practice their reli- openly means that their re settled and completc is (sunderstand their cir- ances. They continue to about friends and family re in hiding, isolated and e to communicate. They

long to be able to return, if only for a visit.

When Gooran and his wife, Eshrat, were given special visas to come here, it was an indication of a softening attitude in Iran. Last summer a new moderate president, Muham- mad Khatemi, was elected, bringing hope of change. For Gooran this meant that at age 77, he was able to enjoy a fam- ily reunion — the first in nearly 20 years.

The outbreak of the revolu- tion in 1979 stranded Gooran's daughter, Ahdieh Hosseiny, her husband, Habib, and their three children in the United States. The Hosseiny's never in- tended to immigrate to New

Jersey. They planned to stay for only one year while Habib earned a master's degree. But shortly after their arrival here their Iranian passports were revoked. They were stateless until their appeal for religious asylum was granted by the United States. They settled in Passaic and built a new life in North Jersey.

I realize now that this is not the same kind of life I have been able to enjoy here as a Baha'i. For many Iranian Baha'is this must be a bitter- sweet existence, which I recog- nized when I looked at one spe- cial painting in the exhibit. It was a wedding portrait of Hos- seiny's daughter, Manya, and her husband, John Clark. They were married five years ago, but her artist grandfather was a prisoner in Iran, unable to at- tend the ceremony. He created the painting from a photograph during the family's long separa- tion.

Shortly after taking office, Khatemi stated that religion and liberty are constant and compatible with the aspirations of the Islamic Revolution as it enters the 21st century. I hope this means that the Iranian Baha'is in our North Jersey communities and in Iran as well will experience the kind of religious freedom someone like me has always taken for granted, and perhaps not ap- preciated.

Pat Kinney is a member of the Baha'i com- munity of Bergen County and reprsents that community on the Interfaith Brother- hood-Sisterhood Committee.

anic's moral: Trust God's will

April 11, 1912, 'Abdul- arrived in New York on Cedric. Four days later, ril 15, the Titanic sank. du'l-Baha, son of 'Allah, prophet-founder of iha'i faith, had journeyed York from Palestine. He ed part of the way with agers who transferred to anic.

Baha'is in America had ased a ticket for 'Abdu'l- on the Titanic, but he re- it and made his own ar- nents.

Abu'l-Baha's arrival in ca was widely reported media. When the Titanic he said he was very sad to that some of the people d traveled with on the

Cedric had perished, but he found consolation in the real- ization that the worlds of God are infinite, and cited the words of Christ, "In my Father's house are many mansions."

He said that while men im- agine that the great size and strength of a ship, the perfec- tion of the machinery or the skill of the navigator will en- sure safety, these disasters sometimes tako place so men may know that God is the real protector.

If it be the will of God to protect man, he said, a little ship may escape destruction, while the greatest and most perfectly constructed vessel with the most skillful navigator may not survive a danger.

more than 200 churches and 100,000 Christians, Pyongyang truly became a "holy" city on Sun- days. But the Korean War left the Christian community nearly decimated.

Along with millions of others, thousands of Christians joined the steady flow of refugees to- ward the south as news of a pos- sible atomic bombing of North Korea spread. In addition, many Communists persecuted Chris- tians, forcing them to flee from their hometowns. The war ended with a divided Korea, and mil- lions of families still remain sepa- rated from their loved ones.

After the war, Christians who remained in the north found themselves under much pres- sure. The socialist constitution allowed them freedom of religion. But because religions were con- sidered superstitious, it also al- lowed for anti-religious propaganda.

But Christians continued to re- main faithful to their faith and assisted with the rebuilding of their country. Nevertheless, many social institutions argued that the United States — a "Christian nation" — was respon- sible for the devastation and tragedy of the Korean War. Thus Christian faith was considered by the North Korean people — espe- cially its postwar generations — as unpatriotic and unscientific.

Then in the 1980s, as the North Korean government took on a more positive attitude toward the outside world, the Christian com- munity was one of the first groups to make contact with the outside world. Christian or- ganizations from around the world started visiting Pyon- gyang, and North Korean Chris- tian delegations visited the Unit- ed States beginning in 1989.

A revision of the constitution in 1992 gave the religious communi- ties much more freedom to prac- tice their religion.

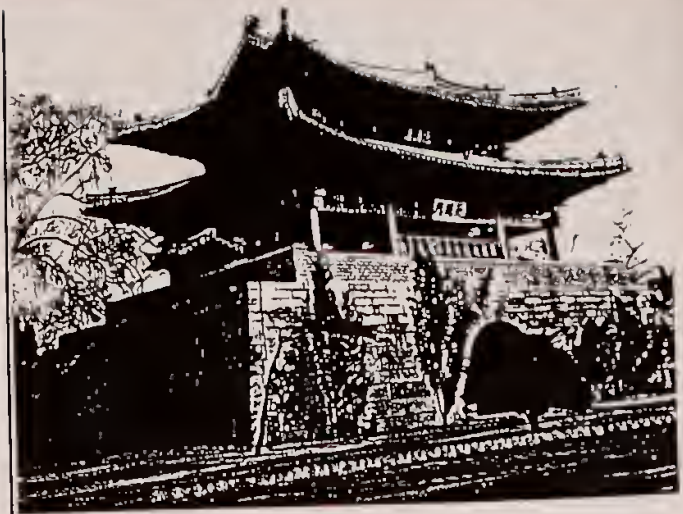
While membership is not grow- ing rapidly, the Christian church in North Korea is gaining strength and courage from its ties and solidarity with churches and people around the world. It is also becoming more visible in North Korean society. Having gained the government's trust, it is now working hard to relieve the suf- fering of famine victims.

The Rev. Paul Kim is director of the Korean- American Peacs institute. Hs has worshiped at Bongsu Church several times and is planning to attend its 10th year anniversary csebra- tion.

150 Leabrook Lane
Princeton, New Jersey
December 10, 1997

Dear Friends and Family:

(2) *Going home to Pyengyang* in what is now North Korea was a 62-year-old desire of Sam's and a longing of my heart since we were married in 1956. But last January, with ten members of the old *Pyengyang Foreign School* family, our dream became a reality. As we waited in the crowded terminal in Beijing looking up at the *Pyengyang* sign over the counter, we hoped the Lord was opening the door again into the northern half of the old *Hermit Kingdom*.



GREAT EAST GATE, PYENGYANG

Korean doors have never opened without stubborn resistance to the outsider. But we remembered another time in recent history, just over 100 years ago, when those isolated northern provinces were opened at great cost and sacrifice by missionary members of our own families and their colleagues. Sam's father was one of the earliest Protestant missionaries to enter the city of Pyengyang through the handsome old gate pictured on this page. As he entered this forbidden interior city for the first time in 1890 an ominous sight greeted him. Inside the gate hung the anchor chains of the *General Sherman* an American trading vessel which carried a gentle Welsh missionary, Robert Thomas, with Bibles from China who hoped to bring the light of the Gospel to the people of Korea. But he chose the wrong vessel for his travels. An unwise captain and crew, contemptuous of Korean sensibilities, tried to coerce local officials to open trade with the world outside and it backfired. That was in 1866, and Thomas became the first Protestant missionary to give his life in Korea. He was beheaded while handing a Bible to a Korean on the river bank, after jumping off the burning ship.

Did Moffett, seeing those chains 24 years later, think he might become the next Protestant martyr in Pyengyang? No, but he was driven out of the city six times in one year.

Our minds were full of this history as we landed at the Pyengyang airport. Two previous visits to North Korea by Dr. Billy Graham in the past few years had issued in a genuine friendship with the late *Great Leader*, Premier Kim Il-Sung. Dr. Graham told the North Korean officials that his wife, Ruth, whose parents were missionaries in China, had gone to high school in Pyengyang and had a deep love for the people and the country. Since then the D.P.R.K. leaders have been asking for more visits from the Grahams. Ill health kept the Grahams from going, but Ruth Graham's sister, Virginia Somerville, who also attended *Pyengyang Foreign School*, and her husband, Dr. John Somerville, were with us. Dr. Stephen Linton, who had accompanied the Graham party as interpreter, had suggested that the North Korean leaders would also quite likely welcome a visit from other *P.Y.F.S.* students with strong ties to their country and offered to lead us. Steve's family (beginning with Eugene Bell, a colleague of Sam's father), has for four generations been Presbyterian missionaries in Korea. Steve had made some twenty previous trips to North Korea delivering food and medical supplies and earning the confidence of the government officials. His leadership of our delegation gave us credibility and made available to us the agency of the *Eugene Bell Centennial Foundation*, of which Steve is president, and enabled us to deliver a state-of-the-art ambulance and other medicines and drugs critically needed by the people of North Korea.

Our first full day in North Korea was a Sunday and we were taken to the smaller of the two open Protestant churches in Pyengyang, the *Chilkol* church, rebuilt a few years ago on the site of an earlier church where the late Premier Kim Il-Sung's mother had worshiped. There were perhaps thirty or forty adult Koreans in the congregation. A small pump organ and a choir of six women and one man led us all in singing the hymns - tunes

we easily recognized. One was *How Great Thou Art*. Two women sang a duet, their faces radiant despite traces of past hardships. We learned that no young person under the age of seventeen is allowed to receive Christian training and no weddings or baptisms can be performed in the churches.

We thought of how this city had once been transformed by the coming of the good news of Jesus Christ. It was "the most wicked city in Korea" when Sam's father entered it, and "not a Christian within 150 miles". But 44 years later, in 1933, he was writing, "There are twenty-three Presbyterian and eight Methodist churches in the city and its suburbs..., and nearly 1000 churches with 53,000 communicants in what was assigned to me by the Mission as my parish - all of Korea north of Seoul" [Two-thirds of all the Christians in Korea were in the north when World War I broke out.] Has all that disappeared?

Current Prob
was in situ

Mostly so, as far as the numbers can tell us. But it has reappeared in the south beyond all expectation. Many Christians came south with the refugees just before and during the Korea War (1950-53). In October we went to Korea again -- this time to South Korea. The growth of the Church in South Korea would surpass even the most enthusiastic hopes of our missionary and Korean Christian forebears. What a contrast!

In the north, the 1000 Protestant churches reported in 1933 have been reduced to two small congregations (and one Roman Catholic) in 1997, and the 53,000 communicants to perhaps several hundred, though how many are in the 500 reported "house churches" in North Korea no one knows. In the south, church growth in those same 34 years exploded from about 35,000 communicants and a total Protestant community of about 100,000, to perhaps 4,000,000 communicants and a total Protestant community of anywhere from 7 to 9 million (some say 15 million!), in 50,000 Protestant churches.

Soongsil University, founded in the North as the first degree-granting college in Korea, by Dr. William M Baird, a college and seminary roommate and lifetime colleague of Sam's father, invited us for a 100th anniversary celebration. Closed by the Japanese over the shrine issue, and soon destroyed by the Communists, it had refused to die. Re-opened in the South after the Korea War, it now has 13,000 students and dreams of building again in the north. John Baird, grandson of the founder, and Sam were given honorary degrees. Nine members of the Baird family were there, along with descendants of former missionary presidents, Moffett, Mowry, and Reiner. The new building in which the ceremony was held bears the name of Korea's most beloved and honored senior Christian minister and statesman, Dr. Kyung-Chik Han.

Eileen was taken by complete surprise in May when the Alumni/ae Council of Princeton Seminary voted to honor her as *Alumna of the Year*. It was an honor given to Sam just twenty years before and both of us have felt that we had a concrete demonstration of undeserved grace.

Our Christmas request to you, our friends and family around the world, is that you join us in prayer to the great Shepherd of the sheep, that he would bless all efforts to bring relief of suffering and open again the door of life and hope to the beleaguered people of North Korea.

Merry Christmas!

Eileen and Sam Moffett

Photo of *Great East Gate (Taedong Min)*, Pyongyang, by Eileen Moffett, January, 1997 - one of only three landmarks which Sam recognized after 62 years & two intervening wars, the other two being the *Potong River Gate* and the magpie nests in the trees



Geography

Location: Eastern Asia, northern half of the Korean Peninsula bordering the Korea Bay and the Sea of Japan, between China and South Korea

Geographic coordinates: 40 00 N, 127 00 E

Map references: Asia

Area:

total: 120,540 sq km

land: 120,410 sq km

water: 130 sq km

Area - comparative: slightly smaller than Mississippi

Land boundaries:

total: 1,673 km

border countries: China 1,416 km, South Korea 238 km, Russia 19 km

Coastline: 2,495 km

Maritime claims:

territorial sea: 12 nm

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

military boundary line : 50 nm in the Sea of Japan and the exclusive economic zone limit in the Yellow Sea where all foreign vessels and aircraft without permission are banned

Climate: temperate with rainfall concentrated in summer

Terrain: mostly hills and mountains separated by deep, narrow valleys; coastal plains wide in west, discontinuous in east

Elevation extremes:

lowest point: Sea of Japan 0 m

highest point: Paektu-san 2,744 m

Natural resources: coal, lead, tungsten, zinc, graphite, magnesite, iron ore, copper, gold, pyrites, salt, fluorspar, hydropower

Land use:

arable land : 14%

permanent crops: 2%

permanent pastures: 0%

forests and woodland: 61%

other : 23% (1993 est.)

Irrigated land: 14,600 sq km (1993 est.)

Natural hazards: late spring droughts often followed by severe flooding; occasional typhoons during the early fall

Environment - current issues: localized air pollution attributable to inadequate industrial controls; water pollution; inadequate supplies of potable water

Environment - international agreements:

party to : Antarctic Treaty, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Environmental Modification, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution

signed, but not ratified: Antarctic-Environmental Protocol, Law of the Sea

Geography - note: strategic location bordering China, South Korea, and Russia; mountainous interior is isolated, nearly inaccessible, and sparsely populated

People

Population: 24,317,004 (July 1997 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 30% (male 3,672,851; female 3,528,590)

15-64 years: 66% (male 7,996,814; female 8,068,347)

65 years and over : 4% (male 372,818; female 677,584) (July 1997 est.)

Population growth rate: 1.68% (1997 est.)

Birth rate: 22.27 births/1,000 population (1997 est.)

Death rate: 5.43 deaths/1,000 population (1997 est.)

Net migration rate: 0 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1997 est.)

Sex ratio:

at birth: 1.05 male(s)/female

under 15 years: 1.04 male(s)/female

15-64 years : 0.99 male(s)/female

65 years and over: 0.55 male(s)/female

total population: 0.98 male(s)/female (1997 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 25 deaths/1,000 live births (1997 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 70.6 years

male : 67.5 years

female: 73.85 years (1997 est.)

Total fertility rate: 2.29 children born/woman (1997 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Korean(s)

adjective: Korean

Ethnic groups: racially homogeneous

Religions: Buddhism and Confucianism, some Christianity and syncretic Chondogyo

note: autonomous religious activities now almost nonexistent; government-sponsored religious groups exist to provide illusion of religious freedom

Languages: Korean

Literacy:

definition: age 15 and over can read and write Korean

total population: 99%

male: 99%

female: 99% (1990 est.)

Government

Country name:

conventional long form: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

conventional short form: North Korea

local long form: Choson-minjujuui-inmin-konghwaguk

local short form: none

note: the North Koreans generally use the term "Choson" to refer to their country

abbreviation : DPRK

Data code: KN

Government type: Communist state; one-man dictatorship

National capital: P'yongyang

Administrative divisions: 9 provinces (do, singular and plural) and 3 special cities* (si, singular and plural); Chagang-do (Chagang Province), Hamgyong-bukto (North Hamgyong Province), Hamgyong-namdo (South Hamgyong Province), Hwanghae-bukto (North Hwanghae Province), Hwanghae-namdo (South Hwanghae Province), Kaesong-si* (Kaesong City), Kangwon-do (Kangwon Province), Namp'o-si* (Namp'o City), P'yongan-bukto (North P'yongan Province), P'yongan-namdo (South P'yongan Province), P'yongyang-si* (P'yongyang City), Yanggang-do (Yanggang Province)

Independence: 9 September 1948

note: 15 August 1945, date of independence from the Japanese and celebrated in North Korea as National Liberation Day

National holiday: DPRK Foundation Day, 9 September (1948)

Constitution: adopted 1948, completely revised 27 December 1972, revised again in April 1992

Legal system: based on German civil law system with Japanese influences and Communist legal theory; no judicial review of legislative acts; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

Suffrage: 17 years of age; universal

Executive branch:

chief of state: KIM Chong-il [de facto]; *note* - President KIM Il-song was reelected without opposition 24 May 1990 and died 8 July 1994 leaving his son KIM Chong-il as designated successor; however the son has not assumed the titles that his father held and no new elections have been held or scheduled

head of government : Acting Premier HONG Song-nam (since NA February 1997)

cabinet: State Administration Council appointed by the Supreme People's Assembly

elections: premier elected by the Supreme People's Assembly

election results: HONG Song-nam elected acting premier; percent of Supreme People's Assembly vote - NA

Legislative branch: unicameral Supreme People's Assembly or Ch'oego Inmin Hoeui (687 seats; members elected by popular vote to serve five-year terms)

elections : last held 7-9 April 1990 (next to be held NA); *note* - the term of the Assembly expired in April 1995 without a new election and it has not been convened since the death of KIM Il-song in July 1994

election results: percent of vote by party - NA; seats by party - the KWP approves a single list of candidates who are elected without opposition; minor parties hold a few seats

Judicial branch: Central Court, judges are elected by the Supreme People's Assembly

Political parties and leaders: major party - Korean Workers' Party (KWP), KIM Chong-il, secretary, Central Committee; Korean Social Democratic Party, KIM Pyong-sik, chairman; Chondoist Chongu Party, YU Mi-yong, chairwoman

International organization participation: ESCAP, FAO, G-77, ICAO, ICRM, IFAD, IFRCS, IHO, IMO, Intelsat (nonsignatory user), IOC, ISO, ITU, NAM, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WToO

Diplomatic representation in the US: none; note - North Korea has a Permanent Mission to the UN in New York, headed by KIM Hyong-u

Diplomatic representation from the US: none

Flag description: three horizontal bands of blue (top), red (triple width), and blue; the red band is edged in white; on the hoist side of the red band is a white disk with a red five-pointed star

Economy

Economy - overview: More than 90% of this command economy is socialized; agricultural land is collectivized; and state-owned industry produces 95% of manufactured goods. State control of economic affairs is unusually tight even for a communist country because of the small size and homogeneity of the society and the strict rule of KIM Il-song in the past and now his son, KIM Chong-il. Economic growth during the period 1984-88 averaged 2%-3%, but output declined by an average of 4%-5% annually during 1989-96 because of systemic problems and disruptions in socialist-style economic relations and technological links with the former USSR and China. The leadership has insisted on maintaining its high level of military outlays from a shrinking economic pie. Moreover, a serious drawdown in inventories and critical shortages in the energy sector have led to increasing interruptions in industrial production. Abundant mineral resources and hydropower have formed the basis of industrial development since World War II. Manufacturing is centered on heavy industry, including military industry, with light industry lagging far behind. Despite the use of improved seed varieties, expansion of irrigation, and the heavy use of fertilizers, North Korea has not yet become self-sufficient in food production. Indeed, a shortage of arable lands, several years of poor harvests, systemic inefficiencies, a cumbersome distribution system, and extensive floods in 1995-96 have resulted in recurring food shortages. Substantial grain shipments from Japan and South Korea are offsetting a portion of the losses. North Korea remains far behind South Korea in economic development and living standards.

GDP: purchasing power parity - \$20.9 billion (1996 est.)

GDP - real growth rate: -5% (1996 est.)

GDP - per capita: purchasing power parity - \$900 (1996 est.)

GDP - composition by sector:

agriculture: 25%

industry: 60%

services: 15% (1995 est.)

Inflation rate - consumer price index: NA%

Labor force:

total: 9.615 million

by occupation: agricultural 36%, nonagricultural 64%

Unemployment rate: NA%

Budget:

revenues: \$19.3 billion

expenditures : \$19.3 billion, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1992 est.)

Industries: military products; machine building, electric power, chemicals; mining (coal, iron ore, magnesite, graphite, copper, zinc, lead, and precious metals), metallurgy; textiles, food processing

Industrial production growth rate: -7% to -9% (1992 est.)

Electricity - capacity: 9.5 million kW (1994)

Electricity - production: 35.96 billion kWh (1994)

Electricity - consumption per capita: 1,394 kWh (1995 est.)

Agriculture - products: rice, corn, potatoes, soybeans, pulses; cattle, pigs, pork, eggs

Exports:

total value: \$805 million (f.o.b., 1995 est.)

commodities: minerals, metallurgical products, agricultural and fishery products, manufactures (including armaments)

partners: China, Japan, South Korea, Germany, Hong Kong, Russia

Imports:

total value: \$1.24 billion (c.i.f., 1995 est.)

commodities: petroleum, grain, coking coal, machinery and equipment, consumer goods

partners: China, Japan, Hong Kong, Germany, Russia, Singapore

Debt - external: \$8 billion (1992 est.)

Economic aid:

recipient: ODA, SNA

note: small amounts of grant aid from South Korea, Japan, US and other countries

Currency: 1 North Korean won (Wn) = 100 chon

Exchange rates: North Korean won (Wn) per US\$1 - 2.15 (May 1994), 2.13 (May 1992), 2.14 (September 1991), 2.1 (January 1990), 2.3 (December 1989)

Fiscal year: calendar year

Communications

Telephones: 30,000 (1990 est.)

Telephone system: system is believed to be available principally for government business

domestic: NA

international: satellite earth stations - 1 Intelsat (Indian Ocean) and 1 Intersputnik (Indian Ocean Region); other international connections through Moscow and Beijing

Radio broadcast stations: AM 18, FM 0, shortwave 0

Radios: 3.5 million

Military manpower - military age: 18 years of age

Military manpower - availability:
males age 15-49: 6,928,338 (1997 est.)

Military manpower - fit for military service:
males : 4,188,070 (1997 est.)

Military manpower - reaching military age annually:
males: 200,136 (1997 est.)

Military expenditures - dollar figure: \$5 billion to \$7 billion (1995 est.)

Military expenditures - percent of GDP: 25% (1995 est.)

Transnational Issues

Disputes - international: short section of boundary with China is indefinite; Demarcation Line with South Korea
